

THE
PRESENT STATE
 OF THE
COURT of ROME:
 CONTAINING THE
LIFE and CHARACTER
 Of the late
Pope CLEMENT XI.

AND

A short Account of his Elevation to the Papacy,
 and of the most remarkable Occurrences in his
 Pontificate; with the Lives and Characters of
 all the **CARDINALS** who assisted at the last
CONCLAVE.

AND LIKEWISE

The Characters of all the Ministers of the Court
 of *Rome* who have since that time been pro-
 moted to the Dignity of a **CARDINAL**, &c.

Translated from an Italian Manuscript never yet publish'd.

To which is prefix'd,

A P R E F A C E,

With some Remarks on the Rise and Nature of the College
 of **CARDINALS**, and the Maxims of their Government.

L O N D O N:

Printed for G. STRAHAN, at the *Golden Ball*, against the *Royal*
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OF THE
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LIFE AND CHARACTER
OF THE
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A short Account of his Life and Pontificate, and of the most remarkable occurrences in his Pontificate; with his Qualities and Characters as all the CARDINALS who assisted at the last CONCLAVE.



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THE PREFACE.

THE Lives of great Men are always entertaining and instructive, but never more useful than when we have them faithfully describ'd in the Life-time of the Persons whose History and Character they contain. From the Lives of Persons that have been dead for many Years, we may learn, 'tis true, the History of past Ages, and the Virtues and Vices of Mankind in general; which may be of some use to us in our Dealings with other Men: But an impartial Account of Persons who are still living, and acting a considerable part on the Stage of this World, teaches us the History of the present Times in which we live; and informs us particularly of the Humour, Affections, Passions, and Interests of the very Persons with whom we have to do. How useful this Knowledge is in the Affairs of the World, every one may be sensible, in some measure, from his own Experience; but it is no where more visible than in the Case of Ambassadors, when they are sent first to the Court of any Foreign Prince. What Time and Pains must they bestow, to discover the Temper and Genius, the several Interests and Alliances, the Passions and Inclinations of the Prince, and his Ministers, with the secret Intrigues of the whole Court, before they can have any Success in their Negotiations? Whereas a Minister that has resided some time at the Court, and is fully instructed in all these Particulars, can go readily to work,

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knowing what will be the most prevailing Argument with the Prince, and what the most powerful Motive to bring over this or the other Minister to his Interest.

I remember *Don Alfonso della Queva*, Ambassador from the Court of *Spain* to the Republick of *Venice*, in the Instructions which he left in Writing with his Successor in that Embassy, among the many useful Advices he there gives him, he recommends to him particularly, besides the getting a true Knowledge of the Nature and Constitution of the Government of that Republick, to procure an exact Account of the Nature, Condition, Qualities, and Fortunes of all their Senators. He tells him what great Advantages he himself had reap'd from this Practice during his Ministry. When any Matter of great Importance was under Deliberation in the Senate, and that he could not by any means penetrate into their Resolutions, because of their Secrecy, he had no other way left him, but to examine into the Nature, Affections, Passions, and Interest of each Senator, and to draw a Consequence from thence, what, in all probability, might be the Result of their Deliberations on that Affair. The Judgment which he made from this Enquiry, and from the Intelligence he had of Matters from his Fellow-Ministers residing at other Courts, prov'd generally so true, that he declares, that in a hundred times that he practis'd this Experiment, it had never fail'd him above four or five. And to enable the Ambassador that succeeded him, to do his Master and his Country greater Service in his Post, he left with him a Paper, which he had procur'd to be written by some *Venetian* for his own Instruction, containing a particular Account of the Nature, Condition, and Qualities of the chiefest Nobles of that Republick.

The following Treatise was written with the same Design, for the Information of an Ambassador residing at the Court of *Rome*. The Author was the Count *d'Elci*, Nephew to the Cardinal of that Name, and Lay-Gentleman * of the Bed-chamber to many Popes
succes-

* Cameriere d'honore di spada e cappa.

ſucceſſively from *Innocent* the Xth down to the preſent Pope *Clement* the XIth. He was born at *Sienna*, and being a Man of quick lively Parts, he went young to *Rome*, in order to raiſe his Fortune at that Court; but he did not meet with a Reward answerable to his Merit, having never been advanced to any higher Poſt, than that of Gentleman of the Bed-chamber. He applied himſelf moſtly to the Study of Politicks, and of the Interests of all the Princes of *Europe*. He made it his chief Study to know well the Characters of Men, and more eſpecially of the Cardinals, and prime Miniſters of the Court of *Rome*. He wrote his Hiſtory of the Cardinals in the Year 1700, a few Months before the preſent Pope's Acceſſion to the Chair. It contains the Lives of ſeventy Cardinals, which make up the whole College; and altho' many of them are dead ſince the writing of this Treatiſe, yet I have thought fit to publiſh all their Lives together, becauſe of the continued Thread of Hiſtory they contain. The late Pope, a little before his Death, fill'd up three Vacancies in the College, by promoting, at the deſire of the Crowns, Cardinals *Borgia*, *Noailles*, and *Lamberg*. The Lives of theſe three Cardinals are added by another Hand, in Imitation of what Count *d'Elci* had done upon the whole College, as it was ſtated at the time he compos'd his Hiſtory; but the Copy falls very far ſhort of the Original. However, Cardinals *Noailles* and *Lamberg* being ſtill alive, I thought it would not be improper to join their Characters, altho' done by another Hand, to the Hiſtory which Count *d'Elci* has given us of the whole College. Under this Pontificate we have as yet had no Promotion, except that of Cardinal *Pignatelli*.

This ſecret Hiſtory, when it came once to be talk'd of abroad, gave great Offence to the Pope, and all the Cardinals; and the Author died in Diſgrace about three Years ago. There being no likelihood that the Original Manuſcript will ever be made publick in *Italy*, I was induc'd to put it into *Engliſh*, that ſuch a curious Piece of Hiſtory may not be loſt to Poſterity, which contains not only the Characters of all the great Men at preſent of the Court of *Rome*, but the

Maxims of its Government, which are the same for ever. Count d'Elci having resided so long a time at the Court of *Rome*, and liv'd in so great a Familiarity with the Cardinals, and chief Ministers, no Man could have a fairer Opportunity than himself, of knowing all the Intrigues, and secret Practices of that Court, and the whole History of the Cardinals that were promoted during his Residence in the Palace. He has given us such a Light into the Mysteries of that Government, and into all the secret Caballings in the Conclaves, for bringing down the Holy Ghost to inspire them in the Election of a Pope, as no Man that was not thoroughly well acquainted with their Proceedings could ever be able to discover. Cardinal *Bentivoglio*, and others after him of less Note, have left us, in a few Lines, the personal Characters of the Cardinals that liv'd in their time. But the Method which this Author has taken, in describing the present College, is much more perfect and compleat. He gives us the History of their Families, of their Alliances, and of their Interests with the Crowns, and with all the Princes of *Italy*. He tells us by what Steps of Preferment they have been advanced to the Cardinalship, and what hopes they have of being rais'd to the Papacy. In a word, he gives us the whole History of the Court of *Rome*, the Maxims of its Government, and lets us into the hidden Mysteries of the Conclave.

There is perhaps no Court in the World that deserves more our Curiosity, to enquire into its Counsels and Proceedings, than the Court of *Rome*, if we reflect on the vast Influence it has on all the other Courts of *Europe*. There is hardly any matter of moment transacted in any Kingdom of *Europe*, I had almost said in any Part of the World, but what the Court of *Rome* has a hand in. There is no Place where they understand better the Interests of all the Kingdoms and States of the World, than at *Rome*. They have undoubtedly in the College of Cardinals some of the ablest Statesmen, and most refin'd Politicians, that are to be met with any where. Most of the Prelates in *Italy* are better skil'd in the Knowledge of the Law,
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and of Politicks, than in Divinity; and where there is one advanced to the Cardinalship for his Learning in Divinity, there are ten promoted for being eminent Lawyers and Politicians. The Study of Divinity they leave intirely to the Fryars; and the Secular Clergy that seek for Preferment in the Church, apply themselves wholly to the Study of the Law, of Church-History, and of Politicks. When they are well grounded in these Sciences, they are first imploy'd in the Government of some of the little Towns in the Ecclesiastical State, where they tarry usually three Years, and are afterwards advanced to Governments of a larger Jurisdiction; till at last, after having given sufficient Proofs of their Prudence and Conduct, they are either sent Nuncios to Foreign Courts, or imployed in some of the most considerable Offices at *Rome*.

There is almost the same Circulation in the Nunciatures, as in the Governments of the Towns within the Ecclesiastical Estate. For Prelates are usually sent Nuncios first to the lesser Courts, such as *Brussels*, *Cologne*, *Switzerland*, *Florence*, *Naples*, and others; from thence they are removed to Courts of a higher Sphere, as *Portugal*, *Poland*, and the Republick of *Venice*; and last of all they are sent to the Courts of *Vienna*, *France*, and *Spain*; from whence they seldom return to *Rome* without a Cardinal's Cap. It is to shew a particular Respect to the Emperor, and the Kings of *France* and *Spain*, above all the other Princes, that the Pope usually dignifies with the Purple all those that have resided as Nuncios at their Courts. The Republick of *Venice*, which is always jealous, to a high degree, of any mark of Honour paid to Crown'd Heads, which is not likewise given to their State, has been labouring a long time, (and Father *Paul* the *Servite* Monk, in his Instructions which he has left them for the Government of their Common-wealth, advises them to insist earnestly on it) to get the Popes to give a Cardinal's Cap to the Persons that have been imployed as Nuncios to their State. The *Venetians* have been likewise endeavouring to procure another of the Regal Prerogatives, which is of great Importance,

tance, and that is, that when they are to receive a new Nuncio, the Pope may first send them a List of the Persons whom he designs for that Office, that the Senate may chuse out of that Number the Person whom they are willing to receive for Nuncio. Such a List the Pope sends to all the Kings, and privately even to the Great Duke of *Tuscany*; so that these Princes have the Satisfaction of seeing none about them, but Prelates that are acceptable to them, and who study to keep a good Correspondence between the two Courts. This makes all the *Roman* Prelates keep fair with the Princes, that they may not refuse them for their Nuncios, they being all of them desirous to be imployed in Nunciatures, this being a sure way of attaining to the Cardinalship. This is one of the late Pretensions set on Foot by the Duke of *Savoy*, who has declared that he will receive no Nuncio at his Court, unless the Pope sends him a previous List, as he does to Kings. There are many Prelates about the Court of *Rome* who are not Bishops, but wear nevertheless the Purple Habit. Some are entitled to this by the Offices they are in. Others, to qualify themselves for Governments of Places within the Ecclesiastical State, or for Nunciatures, obtain leave of the Pope to put themselves in Prelature, after they have made it appear, that they are of a good exemplary Life, and have wherewithal, either of Patrimony, or in Offices, to maintain the Dignity of a Prelate. When the Nuncios are received into the College of Cardinals, they are of course Members of the Congregation appointed for *State Matters*; and I may boldly averr, that there is no Prince in *Europe* has a wiser Council than the Pope. It is compos'd of Men that have all of them a true Foundation of Learning, that are well vers'd in the Law of Nature, and of Nations, in the Civil and Canon Law, in all the Authors that treat of Political Government, and are perfectly well instructed in the Maxims and Interests of all the States in *Europe*. Every one of the Cardinal Nuncios, of which the Council of State is compos'd, has spent a considerable time in most of the Courts himself, and has had particular Information from his
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Fellow-Nuncios of what pass'd at the other Courts where they resided. So that this personal Knowledge which they themselves have of all the Courts, together with the particular Accounts they are receiving daily from the Nuncios, and their Spies in all the Corners of the World, enables them to influence greatly the Councils of all the Princes of *Europe*.

I cannot here forbear remarking the different Treatment which the Pope's Nuncios, and the Ministers of other Princes meet with, when they return from their Embassies. The Nuncios, if they have been faithful and diligent in their Negotiations, seldom fail of being rewarded with a Cardinal's Cap, and of being employed in their Master's Councils of greatest Moment; and this notwithstanding the frequent Changes of their Ministry, nay, even of their Sovereigns themselves. Whatever Changes they have, they still stick close to the constant Rule of their Government, in employing always in their Councils of State, those Persons that have resided as Nuncios in Foreign Courts, as being most capable of giving Advice in such Affairs. In other Kingdoms, when an Ambassador or Envoy is recal'd from the Court to which he was sent, he is often laid aside, as being no longer useful to the Government, when his Residence at Foreign Courts has qualify'd him more than ever for serving his Prince. When the Government has any Matter of Moment to transact with a Foreign Prince, who more fit to advise with than a Person that has resided a long time at his Court, and knows perfectly well the Character, Interests, and Inclinations of the Prince, and his Ministers? Had Envoys any Hopes of being rewarded with some honourable Post, for the Service they do their Country in Foreign Parts, it would encourage them to discharge their Duty with more Care and Fidelity. Had they any Prospect of being employed, after their Return, in the Councils of their Prince, this would set them upon making such particular Remarks and Observations on the Government, Customs, Interest, and Trade of the Country where they reside, as would be of very great Use to their own Sovereign, in all his Treaties and Negotiations with Foreign States.

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We see what Influence this hope of Reward has on the Pope's Nuncios; how careful and diligent it makes them in their Master's Service. Before ever they think of engaging in any Nunciature, they apply themselves closely to the Study of those Sciences that may qualifie them most for that Function, and particularly to the Study of the Laws of Nature and Nations, that they may be better able to maintain the Rights of their Prince, and make a greater Figure at every Court, as Mediators for adjusting the Differences that arise among Princes. As they are at all this Pains to qualifie themselves for the Office, so they are most faithful and diligent in the discharge of it, that they may not lose their Hopes of Preferment when they return to *Rome*. If their Ambition carried their Thoughts no higher than the Posts they are in, they might perhaps grow careless and negligent, and give themselves wholly up to Ease, and the Pleasures of the Court; but the Hopes of seeing their Labours recompenced with a Cardinal's Cap, and with great Preferments in the Church, make them watchful and diligent in their Stations. The *Venetians*, who are known to be a wise and politick State, to encourage their Ambassadors to serve the Republick faithfully, usually reward their Services by making them Procurators of *St. Mark*, which gives them a considerable Rank, and great Privileges in the State. There is likewise another Custom which the *Venetians* observe with respect to their Foreign Ministers, from which the Republick draws great Advantages, and which is worthy of imitation by all other Princes. They oblige their Ambassadors when they return, to give in to the Senate in writing, a distinct Account of the present State of the Court at which they have resided, containing a Character of the Prince, and of his Ministers, of the Maxims of his Councils, and the Defects of his Government, of the Interest and Alliances he has with other Princes, and the proper Methods to be used by the Republick, for holding a good Correspondence with that State, or procuring any Advantages from it. When this Report of the Embassy is read in full Senate, for the Information of the present Senators, it is afterwards

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carefully laid up among their Archives, to be kept there for the Instruction of such young Nobles, as have a mind to fit themselves for the Service of their Country, either at home or abroad.

But to return to the Court of *Rome*. All the Roman Catholick Princes are so sensible of the great Influence that Court has over all the Councils of *Europe*, that they spare no Labour and Pains in the Election of a Pope, to procure the Advancement of a Person that is most favourable to their Interest. It is this that makes all the Kings of that Persuasion, insist so much on having some of their own Subjects promoted to the Cardinalship, that they may strengthen their Interest at that Court. Of what Consequence it is for these Princes to have the Popes cordially in their Interest, we have been taught by a late Instance in *Innocent* the XIth, who contributed so much to the Support of the House of *Austria*, and to the depression of the *French* Monarchy.

Here in *England*, since by our happy Reformation, we have shaken off the Yoke of the Papal Tyranny, we seem to be altogether unconcern'd at what passes in the Court of *Rome*, and not to mind their Counsels and Deliberations. But I am sure, they are not quite so unthindful of our Concerns. There is nothing transacted here, but what they are fully inform'd of by their Emissaries; and they will never be wanting to contribute their Endeavours for pulling down our Church and Constitution. Cardinal *Bentivoglio*, when he was Nuncio at *Brussels*, altho' he had directly no Concern with this Kingdom, yet he sent to the Pope a distinct Account of the Government, Customs, Interest and Religion of these three Kingdoms. I met with the Manuscript by chance in a Library at *Rome*, and wonder it has never been printed among his other Treatises. It is not unknown what Hand the Popes have had in the former Troubles of this Kingdom. Queen *Elizabeth* and King *James I.* were so sensible of their Delights against our Government both in Church and State, and of the great Influence the Popes have over the Councils of all the Roman Catholick Princes, that altho' they had no publick Minister residing at
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Rome, yet they thought it always worth while to entertain some fit Person there, without any Character, to acquaint them from time to time, with what pass'd at that Court, and to discover what they were carrying on at the Courts of other Princes. The same thing is still practis'd by some of the Protestant Princes in *Germany*.

Before the Reader procede to look into the Lives of the Cardinals, it will not be amiss to put him in mind of some things concerning the Nature and Constitution of the College of Cardinals, which I shall only touch at in a few words, and then proceed to give a short Account of the Exaltation of the present Pope, of his Maxims of Government, and of the chief Occurrences that have fallen out since his Accession to the Throne.

It is not unknown to those who are any thing conversant in Church History, that the Cardinals, who now set up to be equal to Kings, were anciently only the chief Priests and Deacons of the City of *Rome*. This Distinction of Cardinal Priests and Deacons was not known in the Days of the Apostles, nor in some Ages after; for the few Priests and Deacons that were then in the Church, exercising their Ministry in Caverns and secret Places, they had no such Distinction among them. This was started only a long time after, when the Church had by their Patience, conquer'd the Persecution of the Heathen Emperors, and trampled under foot the Idols of the Pagans. Then the Number of Ministers increasing in the Church, they began to distinguish the principal Places where Divine Service was perform'd, and the Sacrament of Baptism administred, from those of a lesser Consideration, giving them the Title of Cardinal Churches, and the Priests that officiated in them, the Name of Cardinal Priests. In other Quarters of *Rome*, there were other Titles call'd Deaconries, where the Deacons of the Church resided; and such as had the chief Charge in the Churches of this kind, were called Cardinal Deacons. To them was anciently committed the Care and Disposal of the Charity to the Poor and Indigent.

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The Cardinals were not in those Days the sole Electors of the Pope. He was chosen anciently by the Clergy and People of *Rome*, and confirm'd by the Emperor, who sent always Deputies to assist at his Consecration, and who had a certain Acknowledgement paid him by the Popes before they were inthron'd. This Practice of the Popes being confirm'd by the Emperor, continued as long as the Emperors of the East were in good Correspondence with the See of *Rome*. But this was afterwards changed. For in a Council held at *Rome* by Pope *Adrian* the I. composed of 153 Archbishops, Bishops and Abbots, at which *Charles* the Great was present, the Pope, with the Consent of the whole Clergy, gave to *Charles* the Great, and his Successors Kings of *France*, the Power of chusing the Pope, and disposing of the See of *Rome* as often as it should be vacant. The same Right was afterwards granted to the Emperor *Otho*, by Pope *Leon*. But *Nicholas* the IIId, who was elected Pope in the Year 1059, by a Decree in the General *Lateran* Council, gave the Power of electing the Pope to the Cardinals and Clergy. And afterwards *Alexander* the IIIId, gave it solely to the Cardinals.

The College of Cardinals having had this Augmentation of Power from *Alexander* the IIIId, they afterwards received an Addition of Honour from *Innocent* the IVth. For this Pope having in the Year 1244, assembled a General Council at *Lyons*, at which were present *Badouin* Emperor of *Constantinople*, and *St. Lewis* King of *France*, *Frederick* the IIId, whom the Pope had caus'd to be cited before this Council, was there depriv'd of the *Empire*, for several Crimes laid to his Charge; and the Cardinals were order'd to wear for the future a red Hat. Afterwards *Paul* the IIId, who reign'd in the Year 1464, ordain'd that they should likewise wear a red Cap, in Testimony of their Readiness to expose their Lives, and shed their Blood in defence of the Liberties of the Church. But it was *Boniface* the VIIIth, that rais'd the *Cardinalship* to the greatest Pitch of Honour, having appointed severe Punishments against those that should dare to offend the Cardinals, either by Word or Deed. It was he that
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gave them Leave to wear *Scarlet Robes*, a Colour anciently appropriated to the *Roman* Senators, in the flourishing Days of their Commonwealth, and afterwards reserv'd for the Emperors; whose Domesticks were wont every Morning to kiss the Hem of their Garment, and this was called *adorare purpuram*. On Days of Fasting and Humiliation, the Cardinals wear Purple Robes, and not Scarlet. The Cardinals that are Fryars, are obliged to wear their Cardinal's Habit always of the Colour belonging to their Religious Order, but they use the red Hat and Cap.

The College of Cardinals consists of the Number of Seventy, who are divided into three Orders, Bishops, Priests and Deacons. The Cardinal Bishops are six in Number, and have the Precedency of all the rest. Next in Place are the Cardinal Priests, to the Number of fifty. And last of all come the Cardinal Deacons, who are fourteen in Number. They are often removed from the lower Orders into the higher. Most of the Cardinal Priests have Bishopricks, altho' they, are not rank'd in the Order of Cardinal Bishops. The Cardinal Deacons are usually beneficed with rich Abbeyes. The Princes that are made Cardinals, commonly place themselves in this last Order, that they may be more easily dispens'd with as to their Vows, in case any political Consideration induce them to think of a Married Life. The Cardinal Bishops take place always according to the time they have been in that Order. Among the Cardinal Priests and Deacons, every one takes place in his respective Order, according to the time of his Promotion to the Cardinalship; and when many are promoted at one and the same time, they take Place according to the Order of their Nomination. When a Cardinal is removed from the Order of Deacons to that of Priests, he immediately passes over all the Cardinal Priests that have been promoted after him, except only the first Cardinal Priest, who does not give place to any Cardinal Deacon that comes over into the Order of Priests, altho' he be elder in Promotion.

The Promotion of Cardinals was in former Times made always in the Ember-Weeks, in imitation of the ancient Fathers, who in those Seasons ordain'd Priests and Deacons for the Service of the Church. The Pope was wont to propose first to the Cardinals in a Consistory, the Motives that induced him to make a new Promotion, and ask'd their Opinions concerning it. If the greater part of the Cardinals agreed to the Proposal, then they consider'd of the Number of Cardinals to be promoted, and this being likewise agreed on, the Pope dismiss'd the Consistory, desiring the Cardinals to consider of Persons fit to be promoted to this Dignity. In the next Consistory the Pope read the Names of the Persons that appeared to him to be most worthy of the Dignity, giving an Account of their Personal Merit, or of the Recommendations they had from the Sovereign Princes. And such of them as had the Approbation of the major part of the Cardinals, were promoted by the Pope to the Cardinalship. But now all this matter is transacted in one Consistory; the Cardinals knowing nothing of the Promotion, till the Pope surprize them with the joyful Tidings of *Habemus Fratres*. But still the Cardinals may oppose the Persons named by the Pope, if they think there lye any just Exceptions against them. As in the case of Cardinal *Janson*, whose Promotion was vigorously oppos'd by some of the Cardinals, because he was one of the *French* Bishops that had so zealously asserted the Liberties of the *Gallican* Church, in opposition to the Pope's Authority.

The Cardinals are divided into different Parties or Factions. Those who are promoted at the Recommendation of the Princes, make up a Party for the Prince that procur'd their Advancement, and hence we have the several Factions for *Germany*, *France* and *Spain*. All the other Cardinals list themselves under the Banner of the Pope's Nephew that promoted them. When the Nephew dies, the whole Faction is dispers'd; and such of them as love to live independently of all the Parties, make up a Body which is call'd the *Flying Squadron*, they joyning sometimes with one Party, and sometimes with another, as they see Occasion

tion. Others that set up greatly for Zeal and Reformation, are united in a Party which has the Name of *Zealots*, which is always increasing, and makes a considerable Figure in every Conclave. Of all the Crowns, *Spain* has the greatest Number of Subjects in the College of Cardinals, and consequently might have the greatest Interest, if rightly managed. But the late Government of *Spain*, instead of sending the *Spanish* Cardinals to *Rome*, to strengthen their declining Faction, and manage the Interest of their Prince at that Court, usually put them into Posts that necessarily requir'd their Presence in their own Country; so that they were, in a manner, useless to the Crown. Besides the Native *Spaniards*, who are never made Cardinals but at their King's Nomination, the Subjects of *Naples* and *Milan* have Cardinal's Caps given them promiscuously with other *Italians*. These *Neapolitan* and *Milanese* Cardinals, altho' Subjects of *Spain*, list themselves always in the Faction of the Pope that created them; whereas, under a prudent Administration of the Government, proper Methods might be fallen on, to keep these Cardinals as intirely at the Devotion of their Prince, as the Natives of *Spain*. The late Pope *Innocent* the XIIth, altho' born a Subject of *Spain*, was nevertheless a partial Friend to *France*; and he alone granted more Favours to that Monarchy, than it had obtain'd from many Popes before him. If the Princes of the House of *Bourbon* continue peaceable Possessors of the *Spanish* Monarchy, they will not fail to improve these Advantages that have been so much neglected by former Kings of *Spain*; and when all this Interest is join'd to the *French* Faction, the two Crowns united together will be able to muster up a terrible Force in the first Conclave.

When the Pope makes a Promotion of Cardinals, of his own free Choice, he generally names *Italians*; so that it seldom happens that any Foreigner is receiv'd into the Number, except at the Nomination of some of the Crowns. *Clement* the Vth, who transplanted the Seat of the Papacy from *Rome* to *Avignon*, was the first Pope that promoted any to the Cardinalship at the Request of Princes. Since which the
Kings

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Kings pretend a Right, that the Pope, in every other Promotion he makes, shall name one Subject for each Crown, whom the Prince thinks fit to recommend. This Distinction of Countries, which the Popes observe in the Promotion of Cardinals, shews a vast Partiality in one that sets up to be Head of the whole Catholick Church, and pretends to be common Father of all the Catholicks, wheresoever scatter'd and dispers'd over the Face of the Earth. It seems but reasonable, that those who are set up to be Judges over the whole World, should be chosen promiscuously out of all the Parts of the World. Are not the Kingdoms of *France, Spain, Portugal, and Poland*, large Dominions where the Roman Catholick Religion is establish'd by Law, as well as in *Italy*? And yet not a Subject of any of these Countries ever promoted to the Cardinalship, but when the Kings pretend a Right to name them. 'Tis true, *Innocent* the XIth promoted, of his own accord, Cardinals *Camus, Barbarigo, and Denhoff*; but this was thought to be in spite to their Sovereigns, with whom they were at that time in Disgrace; and therefore this Promotion was call'd by the *Romans*, *the spiteful and revengeful Promotion*. Cardinal *Howard* is perhaps a singular Instance of any Roman Catholick Subject of a Protestant Kingdom that has been made a Cardinal since the Reformation; and this happen'd because of a particular Intimacy and Familiarity he had contracted with *Clement* the Xth long before he was Pope. It seems somewhat strange, that the Popes, who pretend so much Zeal for propagating their Faith in Foreign Countries, should shew so much Partiality in distributing the Honours of the Church; and dignify with the Purple, only those Persons who live in a Country where their Religion is countenanced and protected by the Laws, and take no manner of notice of those who are constant to their Persuasion amidst a multitude of Discouragements, and who suffer Hardships, and what they call Persecution, rather than renounce a blind and implicit Obedience to the Church of *Rome*.

It is usual for the Popes to give a Cardinal's Cap to some Relation of the Pope that promoted them to

the Purple, and this they call *Restoring of the Cap.* The Princes take care to provide the Cardinals of their own Nomination, with a Revenue sufficient to maintain the Dignity of their Character. The other Cardinals are provided, by the Popes who created them, with Benefices to the value of at least six thousand Crowns a Year. Such of them as have any hopes of being Pope, never care to accept of any Preferment from Kings, lest they should be look'd upon as Partisans of any Crown, and by that means prejudice their Pretension to the Papacy.

The Cardinals who reside at *Rome* are constantly employed in some of the Congregations, of which there is a great number. Besides the Congregation for *Affairs of State*, which is made up of all the Cardinals that have been Nuncios, there is one instituted for enquiring into the Government of the Ecclesiastick Territories, at which assist all the Cardinals that have been Legates in any of the Provinces. To this Congregation the Governours of all the Places within the Dominions of the Church, are obliged to send an account of the Cases of any Moment that fall out within their Jurisdiction, and to receive their Orders from that Board, after that the Congregation has deliberated on the matter. There is another Congregation appointed to examin those that are to be promoted to Bishopricks in *Italy*. This is always held in the Pope's Presence, and there are about eight or ten Cardinals, several Prelates, and some Fathers of the Religious Orders that assist in it. The Person to be examin'd kneels all the while on a Cushion before the Pope, and any one present in the Congregation may interrogate him, either in Divinity or Law; and after he is examin'd and approv'd of, his Name is writ in a Book kept for that purpose by the Secretary of the Congregation. When a Bishop is once examin'd, altho' he is afterwards translated from one Church to another, he is liable to no farther Trial. The Cardinals are the only Persons exempted from this Examination. A great many other Congregations they have, one for Propagating the Faith, another for Maintaining the Ecclesiastical Immunities, and a third

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third for Regulating the Ceremonies of the Court, with many more ; to all which they give the Title of *Sacred*, either out of a formal Pride, or thinking by that specious Title to make their Orders and Decrees be more respected. It is to raise in the Vulgar an Opinion of the Sanctity and Holiness of the Pope, that they affect so industriously to give the Titles of *Holy* and *Sacred* to every thing that belongs to him. They not only give the Title of *Holiness* to his Person, but the Palace where he lives is called the *Sacred Palace*, his Treasury the *Sacred Treasury* ; and the chief Commander of his Troops is not called the Pope's General, but General of the *Holy Church*.

Besides the *Congregations*, which are always compos'd of Cardinals, assisted by some Prelates, and which have the Inspection over the Affairs of greatest Moment relating to the See and Court of *Rome*, there are Committees of Prelates named to look after matters of lesser Concern. There is one particularly appointed for the Ease and Relief of Prisoners. It is compos'd of the Governour of *Rome*, and of all the other Prelates that have any Jurisdiction in the City. They are obliged once a Week to visit the Prisons, sometimes one, and sometimes another, till they have made the Round, and then they begin anew. Their Business is to enquire into the Necessities of the poor Prisoners, and to procure their speedy Release. In the Week before *Christmas*, or *Easter*, they set at liberty many poor Prisoners that are detain'd in Jail either for Debt, or some small Offence, which they have aton'd for by their Imprisonment, and this is call'd the *Gracious Visitation*. There is likewise a Prelate appointed Superintendant over the Prisons, who is to look after the Prisoners, and to see that they do not want Necessaries, and that they are not oppress'd or abus'd by their Keepers. This Custom of Visiting the Prisons has been in use in the Christian Church for many Ages ; for we find among the Laws of the Eastern Emperors, a particular Injunction to the Bishops of every City, to visit the Prisons within their Diocesses once a Week, to enquire into the Condition of the Prisoners, and the Causes of their Imprison-

ment, and to acquaint the Judges with their State and Condition, that speedy Methods might be taken for their Deliverance. If the Prisoners were ill used by their Keepers, and the Judges refused to give them speedy Redress, the Bishops were commanded to acquaint the Emperor himself, that he might take care to punish the Transgressors, and relieve the oppressed.

The Cardinals that are not Bishops, claim nevertheless the Precedency before all Archbishops and Bishops; because, as they say, the Jurisdiction of an Archbishop reaches no farther than one Province, whereas that of a Cardinal is extended over the whole Roman Catholick Church. At first the Bishops of *Italy* refus'd to give place to the Cardinals that were not Bishops, pretending that Episcopacy is the top of all Dignities in the Church; and the Bishops of *France* do still insist on their Right of Precedency. The Cardinals not only claim a Preference to all Bishops, but, as Princes of the Catholick Church, they claim a Superiority over all other Princes, and pretend to be equal to Kings. For this reason the Princes of an inferiour Rank refuse to receive any Visits from the Cardinals, because they will not give them the Right Hand; and the King of *France* demands this Respect to be paid by the Cardinals, not only to the Princes of the Royal Blood, but likewise to his Natural Sons.

The Cardinals began to assume the Title of Princes of the Roman Church, after that the Custom was introduced of Crowning the Popes as Temporal Princes, when they began to increase in Power and Strength. The Temporal Dominion which they boast of as a Gift of *Constantine* the Great, they had in reality from the Kings of *France*, in the eighth Century, when Pope *Constantine*, and after him the two *Gregories* Second and Third, threw off their Obedience to *Leo Isauricus*, the Emperor of the East, under Pretext of his being the Author of the Sect of the *Iconoclasts*, and call'd in the *Lombards* for their Protectors, who a long time before that were Masters of a great part of *Italy*. But they being soon weary of the Oppressions of the *Lombards*, the Popes *Zachary* and *Stephen* call'd in to their
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Deliverance *Charles Martel*, *Pipin*, and *Charles the Great*, who after having taken the Kingdom from *Desiderius*, gave *Romagna* and the *Marca d'Ancona* to the Church. The Territories of the Church increasing after this every Day, by the Liberality of Princes, the Popes at last began to think of getting themselves crown'd as other Temporal Princes, whereas before they were only consecrated as Bishops.

It is somewhat surprizing, to consider how many Kings and States, mov'd either by a Principle of Devotion, or by the Hopes of remaining safe under the Wings of the Church, submitted themselves voluntarily to the Popes, the authentick Instruments by which they made over their Kingdoms and Provinces being still extant, of which the Popes afterwards gave the Investiture to the ancient Possessors, under an Obligation of paying some small Acknowledgment to the See of *Rome*, which was called *Peter-Pence*. Among the Kingdoms that submitted themselves in this manner to the Pope's Authority, we read of *England*, *Ireland*, *Portugal*, *Poland*, *Saxony*, *Catalonia*, and the Islands of *Sicily*, *Corfica*, *Majorca*, and *Minorca*. But in Progress of time all these Kingdoms threw off their Bondage; so that there remains only now the Kingdom of *Naples*, with the Dutchies of *Parma* and *Piacenza*, that are Fees of the Church.

At present the Pope's Dominions consist in the City of *Rome*, the Campagna of *Rome*, the Patrimony of *St. Peter*, *Umbria*, *Marca d'Ancona*, *Romagna*, *Urbino*, *Bolonia*, and *Ferrara*, together with the City and Dutchy of *Benevento* in the Kingdom of *Naples*, and the County of *Avignon* in *France*. Of these the Pope is Sovereign Prince, and independant of all Mankind. He lays on Taxes, raises them, and spends them as he pleases. He enters into Alliances of Peace and War with whom he thinks fit, without being obliged to ask the Consent of others. In former times the Popes had Power to alienate Cities and Lands belonging to their Demesne, as *Paul the III^d*, who gave *Parma* and *Piacenza* to his SON. But *Pius the Vth* forbid this by his severe Bull *de non Infeudando*, which the Cardinals are bound to swear to when they

are promoted, and likewise when they enter into the Conclave. The late Pope *Innocent* the XIIth by another Bull, which is sworn to by the Cardinals in the same manner as the other just now mention'd, has restricted his Successors from gratifying their Relations, except in so far that they can create one of their Nephews a Cardinal, and give him out of the Treasury twelve thousand Crowns a Year. If I rightly remember, the Bull allows six thousand Crowns a Year to be given to a second Nephew, and four thousand to the third. The others he cannot in the least gratify, not even under the Pretence of Charity, except in such a Sum as he would give to any other poor Man that were no Relation to him. It was likewise *Innocent* the XIIth that abolish'd the Venality of Offices. For before his time, the chief Offices about the Court of *Rome*, such as Governour of the City, Treasurer, Auditor, and Commissioners of the Treasury, were always sold, some for a hundred thousand Crowns, others for eighty thousand, and so in Proportion, as the Offices were more or less lucrative. The Prelates that held these Offices seldom fail'd of having a Cardinal's Cap, because the Popes, by advancing them, brought in always so much ready Money to their Nephews, by the Sale of the Places they were possess'd of. It is commonly believ'd, that the Author and chief Adviser of these severe Bulls, was the present Pope, at that time Cardinal *Albani*, and Secretary of the Briefs.

The Pope's yearly Revenue amounts to four Millions of *Roman* Crowns, of which he applies some Portion to the Maintenance of his Court, and to supply the Exigencies of the State; a part he distributes in Alms, and all the rest is swallow'd up in discharging forty Millions of Crowns, of Debt contracted at several times by former Popes, either for carrying on a War against some Princes, or for assisting the Christian Princes against the *Turks*, or to enrich their own Relations, or to raise some Buildings, either for their own Convenience, or Publick Ornament, or in bringing Water from a great distance to the City of *Rome*, almost all the Squares of the City being

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being nobly adorn'd with Fountains, from whence all the private Houses in *Rome* are most conveniently supply'd with Water. But besides the yearly Revenue proceeding from the Territories of the Church, the Popes have the Disposal of the Income of the *Datary*, which is an inexhaustible Source of Treasure. It is incredible what vast Sums of Money the Popes have found means to draw from other Countries, under the Pretext of Religion, either in excessive Pensions upon Church Benefices, or for the Dispatch of Bulls, for Dispensations, Briefs, and so many different kinds of Licences, or in exorbitant Taxes on the Regular Clergy; or for the Consecration of Bishops, and by many other secret Channels, thro' which they convey vast Treasures of Gold to *Rome*, from all Roman Catholick Kingdoms, and that of the purest and readiest that is in the State. So that there is no Prince abler to reward those that serve him than the Pope; none more able than he to give away much with little Damage to himself. Nay, who but he has the Power of conferring Dignities equal to the Grandeur of Kings.

There is yet another great Source which the Popes have, wherewith to gratifie all sorts of Persons, without Exception; and that is the Disposal of innumerable Bishopricks, and Church Benefices, in *Italy*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*. It is by the Collation of Benefices in the Territories of other Princes, that the Popes maintain their publick and private Spies in Foreign Countries. For they often confer them upon Strangers, and when they dispose of them to any natural born Subject of the Kingdom where the Benefice lies, they usually give them to such Persons as are least in Favour with their Prince. This is a political Maxim lately brought into use in the *Datary* by Cardinal *Panciatichi*, who is reputed a fierce and violent Enemy to Kings. *Spain* is a Country vastly rich in Church Preferments, and altho' the Pope has the Disposal of most of them, yet the Laws of the Kingdom require that they shall be given to none but natural born *Spaniards*. However, the Court of *Rome* has found an Evasion for the Law. They usually give the Title of the Benefice, with some small Portion out of it, to

a *Spaniard* that resides at *Rome*, to whom they give, for this reason, the Nick-name of *Iron-head**, and the rest of the Revenue they dispose of in Pensions to this or the other Person, sometimes even to a Lay-man, who finds means, by his secret Services, to insinuate himself into the Favour of the Court.

The Kings of *France* have not had that Complaisance for the Popes in this matter, as those of *Spain*. For in *France*, the King disposes of all the Dignities of the Church, from the Cardinalship down to the most inconsiderable Rectorship of a Convent, nay even of the Nunneries. And by this means he keeps all his Subjects in a most dutiful and respectful Obedience to him, they being certain that they cannot have any of the Church Benefices within that vast Kingdom, but from his own Hand. The *French* do not own that Sovereign and Independent Power claim'd by the Popes, and receiv'd by the Provinces of *Italy*, and in *Spain*. They do not acknowledge the Pope to be infallible, nor above the Councils, and much less do they own his Authority to depose Princes, and to absolve the Subjects from their Allegiance. The Duke of *Savoy*, seeing the great Advantages which the King of *France* reaps, by having the Church Preferments within his Kingdom independent of all Foreign Power, labour'd hard to get the Pope to grant him a Power of Presenting to all the Bishopricks and Abbeys in *Piedmont*, as *Martin* the Vth had given to his Predecessors for those in *Savoy*, which at last he obtain'd from *Innocent* the XIIth, and by this Grant the *Datary* of *Rome* loses at least seventy two thousand Crowns a Year. The Duke of *Lorrain*, seeing what Success the Duke of *Savoy* has had in his Pretensions, insists now upon the same Right of Collation to the Benefices within his Territories.

Notwithstanding of the many Ways the Popes have to enrich their Relations, and gratify whom they will, at the Cost of other Princes, without encroaching upon their own Revenue; yet the Publick Treasury, which they call at *Rome* by the Name of *Apostolick*

* *Testa de Ferro.*

Polick Chamber, was so exhausted when *Innocent* the XIth came to the Throne, that its Credit was look'd upon as intirely gone, the publick Charges surpassing, by a great deal, the Income. But that Pope, whose Talent did not lie so much in Learning, as in a frugal Administration of his Revenue, applied himself with so much Zeal to repair the Damages of the Publick, and had so good Success in his Endeavours, that he not only made the Treasury defray all the publick Expences, but he found means to give to the Emperor considerable Supplies against the *Turks*, at a time he stood greatly in need of them. He prevail'd likewise with the King of *Poland* to take up Arms against the *Turks*, and laid the Foundation of that great League, which so fortunately reduced the exorbitant Power of the *Ottoman* Empire.

Innocent the XIth was succeeded in the Chair by *Alexander* the VIIIth, who was a Man of much greater Learning than his Predecessor. He enrich'd his Relations with Offices, and Church Benefices, but not with the Money of the Publick Treasury. For what Money his Predecessor left, it was all afterwards lost by the famous Bankrupt of the Marquis of *Nerli*, Brother to the Cardinal of that Name, which the Pope took so much to Heart, that many People look'd upon it as the cause of his Death.

After the Death of *Alexander* the VIIIth, the Cardinals, being wearied with a tedious Conclave, did, as it were, deposite the Papal Authority in the Hands of Cardinal *Anthony Pignatelli*, who took the Name of *Innocent* the XIIth. He was well stricken in Years before he was promoted to the Purple, and he administered several Offices with no great Applause. But he prov'd a much better Pope than was expected, and may well be reckon'd among the best, he having in the course of nine Years done a great many good things. He was exceeding charitable to the Poor, for whose behoof he built, and endow'd plentifully many Hospitals. For the Ease of his Subjects he abolish'd one Impost: He built a large Palace at *Monte Citorio*, for the Convenience of the Courts of Justice, and he repair'd the ancient Port of *Antium*. He was, in fine,
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a great Lover of Justice, and upright in all his Intentions. He was void of all wordly Interest, Praise only excepted, for which he had a great Thirst. He stopt up the devouring Gulf of the Nepotism; and altho' he had laid out vast Sums of Money on those publick Buildings, yet he found means to leave in the Treasury eight hundred thousand Crowns, with three Cardinals Caps vacant. This he did by the Persuasion of those Cardinals that were about him in the Palace, who perhaps entertaining Hopes of succeeding him, were willing to have these to dispose of among their own Relations. The Cardinals began to be tir'd, as it were, with this Pope's long Life, being sensible that the Dignity and Interest of the Holy See suffer'd great Prejudice by his excessive Complaisance to the Princes, to whom he bore a profound Respect, but with greater Partiality to some than to others. At last being full of Years, and overcome with Weakness, after having wearied the Zeal, and even the Wishes of the College of Cardinals, for whom he had no great Love nor Esteem, he died on the 27th of September 1700.

There never was a Conclave long'd for with more Impatience, nor begun with a greater Shew of Zeal, than after the Death of *Innocent* the XIIth; all the Cardinals declaring, before they went into the Conclave, that they would set up a Pope, who should not only repair the Damages done to the See, and Court of *Rome*, by the excessive Mildness of the late Pontificate, but even raise considerably the Authority of the Holy See, and consequently reduce that of Princes, which they always complain of as being too exorbitant.

Those Sacred Electors shut themselves up in the Conclave the 8th of October 1700. And so great was their Eagerness to chuse a Pope that would prove as severe in his Government, as *Innocent* the XIIth had been mild, that they had scarcely finish'd the necessary Preliminaries of invoking the Assistance of the Holy Ghost, when they conspir'd all of them, as it were clandestinely, to place in the Throne Cardinal *Marescotti*, a Man of an undaunted Courage, and worthy of Empire.

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Empire. But the Grudge which the *French* bear to him of old, soon put a stop to his Advancement, *Marescotti* was favour'd by all the *Zealots*, who have a mental Aversion to Princes, whom they tax with abusing the Authority that is committed to them; and who were desirous to put the Government in the Hands of a Person who is most tenacious in what he undertakes, and is not to be frighten'd into a Compliance, by the Threatnings of any Prince. The *French* Cardinals were seiz'd with Horrour, when they saw so strong a Party appear for *Marescotti*; upon which such of them as were not as yet gone into the Conclave, enter'd in all haste. And when they had united all their Forces, they wrought so much by their Clamours and Protestations, that they may glory in having broke the Measures of that great Project in Favour of *Marescotti*; which lasted in appearance many days, but was always losing Ground, it having at last been discover'd, that his Interest was supported by Count *Lamberg* the Emperor's Ambassador, and the Duke of *Uxeda* Ambassador from *Spain*, who were assiduous to promote the Election of a Person that they knew to be intirely in the Interest of the House of *Austria*. As the too publick Favour of any Nation, and its too great Earnestness for the Advancement of a Cardinal, are always fatal to his Interest; so the zealous Endeavours of these two *Austrian* Ambassadors prov'd mortal to Cardinal *Marescotti*. All the Cardinals therefore that aspire at wearing the Triple Crown, strive to carry themselves with such an equal Indifferency, in outward Appearance, towards all the Crowns, as not to deserve the Hatred on one Hand, and on the other to avoid too open a Declaration of the Favour of any Prince.

Next to *Marescotti* was set up Cardinal *Panciatichi*, a Man belov'd by no Party, altho' of great Merit; but of such a Temper, as if he seem'd to study to make his way to St. *Peter's* Chair, by despising all Earthly Powers. Cardinal *Ottoboni*, with all his Faction, durst not venture to propose him, all the Ambassadors having declar'd themselves at first, without knowing of one another, against his Exaltation. And

Panciatichi

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Panciatichi himself, knowing that he was more hated than beloved, rejected with Scorn all the fruitless Attempts that were made for his Advancement.

But on the contrary, Cardinal *Acciaïoli* shew'd a great Desire to have his Fate try'd in the Conclave. For having for a long time, cultivated the Friendship of all the Foreign Ministers, he flatter'd himself with Hopes of Success, till the very Moment that mention was made of his Name, and then he soon discover'd that he had but few Friends, and that the great Duke of *Toscany* his own Sovereign, was underhand one of his greatest Opposers.

All Attempts in favour of these three Cardinals having prov'd unsuccessful, hardly Mention was made of Cardinal *Charles Barberini*, of *Carpegna*, and *del Verme*; the Cardinals fearing to set up the two first, because of their Temper, and of their numerous Nepotism. And the last was not very acceptable, because of the near Relation he has to *Monsignor Pallavicino*, Governour of *Rome*, whose Office, and natural Inclinations render him odious to all Degrees of Men.

There was hardly any Body offer'd to propose Cardinal *Spinola Santa Cecilia*, because of his being too old and valetudinary; neither had *Durazzo* any Success in the Attempts that were made for his Promotion. These two Cardinals are *Genoeses*; both of them Men of great Parts, of which the first gave sufficient Proof during his long and difficult Government of the City of *Rome*; and the second in his Nunciatures at the Courts of *Portugal* and *Spain*.

The Cardinals that are of a bold and undaunted Spirit, would not hear either of *Morigia* or *Rodolovich*, altho' Persons of great Probity and Learning; because they look'd upon them both to be of too mild a Temper. Besides, the first was judg'd to have too great a Dependance on the great Duke of *Toscany*; and the second was thought to be too partially inclin'd to the *French*, altho' a *Neapolitan*, and a Subject of the House of *Austria*.

There was no Mention at all made of *Nerli*, *Spada* or *Sperelli*, nor of several other Cardinals, who for Age and Merit, deserv'd very well to have been placed

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ced in the Rank of Candidates. Cardinal *Norris* being a Man of profound Learning, and his free easie way rendring him very acceptable both to the Cardinals and Princes, he would have been very fair for wearing the Triple Crown, had not the Emperor's Ambassador opposed him for being a *Venetian*; and the Jesuites, because he was Author of the famous *History of Pelagianism*, so very contrary to their Doctrines.

The Cardinals continued still in this uncertainty in the Conclave, waiting for the Impulse of the Holy Ghost, to guide them in the Choice of a Pope; when all of a sudden it seem'd as if he had descended upon them, the greatest part appearing one Day mighty zealous to set the Crown on the Head of Cardinal *Colloredo*. But this was vigorously opposed by such Cardinals as fear'd too much a Censure and Reformation of Manners; so that the Endeavours, and long Constancy of the Zealots in his favour prov'd ineffectual. The *French* likewise at first appear'd against this Cardinal, suspecting him to be a Favourer of the House of *Austria*; but when they consider'd on the other hand, that he was a Subject of the Republick of *Venice*, they were soon brought over to join in his Exaltation.

While the Cardinals were in this Fluctuation and Diversity of Judgments, and every one beginning to fear a long and tedious Conclave, there happen'd an Accident to the Prince of *Monaco*, the *French* Ambassador, he having been shot at by some of the Town Guards in the Scuffle about Prince *Vaini*, which gave new Life and Vigour to their Negotiations for a future Election. However, the *French* Cardinals declared that they would not proceed farther, till they receiv'd their Master's Orders as to the Reparation that was to be made to his Ambassador; and every Body expected this Affair would have the same Issue as that of the Duke of *Cregui*, with the *Corfican* Guards. But his most Christian Majesty being taken up at that time with greater Thoughts, and having nothing then so much in his View, as the great Revolution

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tion * that happen'd soon after, he thought it convenient to prefer his Interest to point of Honour, and for that Reason abandon'd his Minister, lest the Cardinals should out of Revenge, conspire in the Election of a Pope, that might obstruct his vast Designs.

This great and unexpected Easiness in the *French* King, was not enough to bring over the Cardinals to his Interest. For on the contrary, they were rather embolden'd by this his easie Compliance; and a few Days after there appear'd all of a sudden such a strong Party in favour of Cardinal *Spinola San Cesareo*, that if they had been join'd by six Voices more, he had been ador'd by the whole Conclave as *St. Peter's* Successor. This Cardinal is reckon'd one of the greatest Men in the Court of *Rome*; but he is of a most fierce Temper, and a great Stickler for the Glory of his Character.

During this Interval, came the News of the Death of *Charles* the II^d King of *Spain*, which did so affect the Minds of the Cardinals, that of a sudden laying aside all their Passions, and Views of Self-interest, they cast their Eyes upon Cardinal *Albani*, whom they unanimously placed in the Throne, as a Person fit to encounter the greatest Monarchs, at a time that the See of *Rome*, and indeed all *Europe*, seem'd to be threaten'd with imminent Danger. This Cardinal was greatly surpriz'd with the News of his Election, and thought it rather an Illusion, than real matter of Fact. He endeavour'd to withdraw himself from under the great Weight of Government they had laid upon him, by representing his Insufficiency for such a weighty Employment, excusing himself with excessive Tears, and a thousand Protestations, and even flying from the Cardinals, and shutting himself up in his Cell, that they might not get at him to importune him any more on the Subject, just as the Prophets were wont to do of old, when God made choice of them for any difficult Expedition. His Refusal, and his Tears proceeded, as most People believe, from a sincere and honest

* The Duke of *Anjou's* Succession to the Monarchy of *Spain*.

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honest Heart ; but there were some Persons so malicious as to think that all this was feign'd, that he might be forced as it were to reign, and be under no manner of Obligation to those who rais'd him to the Throne. He persisted in his Refusal for three Days, but at last yielded to the Importunity of the Cardinals; and it seem'd as if he comply'd rather out of Scruple of Conscience, and to be free from farther Importunity, than that he accepted of the Crown voluntarily.

He no sooner enter'd upon the Administration of the Government, but as a beginning of his Pontificate, and as his first Undertaking, he gave all the Ambassadors to understand, that they must renounce a great many Innovations, introduced, as he said, by them, and too tamely conniv'd at by his Predecessors. All the Foreign Ministers perceiv'd clearly the Pope's Meaning in this Intimation. They saw that he had a mind to answer fully the Intent of the Colledge of Cardinals in placing him in the Throne, and that he therefore endeavour'd at first to possess People with a great Opinion of his Rigour, in abolishing all the Usurpations which were pretended to be made by the Ambassadors, but making no Restitution of any Encroachments which the Court of *Rome* had made upon the Rights of Princes. The Ambassadors saw it necessary, as Affairs then stood, to dissemble, and not to break at first with a Pope, who seem'd to seek for an Opportunity to shew his zeal in reducing the Power of Princes; for whose Character, having never been employ'd without the Territories of the Church, he had not that profound Respect and Esteem, which the Magnificence of great Courts begets in those that frequent them.

I shall not here insist on the History of the present Pope's Family, since that may be seen in his Life, written by Count *D'Eici*, among the Lives of the other Cardinals. I shall only take notice of such Circumstances as seem to have mostly contributed to his Advancement to the Papacy, and have been most remarkable in his Pontificate. Having been bred up in the City of *Rome*, amidst the great Straits and Difficulties

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ficulties of his Father's Fortune, he was necessitated to learn the cunning Arts of the Court, appearing to be humble, genteel, easie, suffering, slow in his Resolutions, and dissembling Injuries, which are the necessary Qualifications of a true Courtier. In this he succeeded so well, that being beloved by all Persons, because of his sweet obliging Carriage and Behaviour, and esteem'd for his great Learning, he was soon distinguish'd by the Queen of *Sweden*, and receiv'd a Member of her Academy, which was compos'd of the most learned Men then alive. He put himself in Prelature at the Age of eight and twenty Years, and was sent to the Governments of *Rieti*, *Sabina* and *Orvieto*, which he administred with so great Applause, that he was soon after, by the Favour of *Monsignor Casoni*, taken into the Palace, and made Secretary of the Briefs by *Innocent* the XIth, having first had the Approbation of one *Antony di Fiori*, a famous Expeditionary at *Rome*, whom the Pope consulted with upon this Occasion, of being the fittest Person in *Rome* for this important Post.

During his Ministry under that Pope, he acquir'd a greater slowness in his Deliberations than what he had naturally, and learn'd of his Master to be obstinate in his Resolutions. But under *Alexander* the VIIIth, who promoted him to the Purple, he learn'd ways much more cunning, of negotiating matters with a more chearful Countenance, and appearing always ready to do service to every Body. These Arts he practis'd with so good Success in the Pontificate of his Predecessor *Innocent* the XIIth, that when he was employ'd in the Palace, together with the Cardinals *Spada* and *Panciatichi*, the one Secretary of State, and the other Datary, the first in no great Esteem with the Pope, and the second as little belov'd by him, *Albani* was the only Person that durst approach that distrustful old Gentleman, so that he render'd himself necessary both to the Prince, and to the Court. In effect, he seem'd to be the Darling of *Rome*, and there was not any Foreign Minister or Nation, but what believ'd Cardinal *Albani* to be intirely their own; so well did he know to counterfeit his Affections, and to change his

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his Language with all Persons. It is not therefore much to be wonder'd at, if this Cardinal, after having gain'd the Hearts of all People, has been at the Age of one and fifty Years exalted to the Throne; whither he has carried along with him the Image, but drawn to a vast Advantage, both of *Innocent* the XIth, and of *Alexander* the VIIIth, the Authors of his Fortune.

The Election of this Pope was greatly applauded by the whole Court of *Rome*; the chief Element of which consisting in the Ceremonial Part, it is not credible how much they were overjoy'd at Court, when the Pope call'd the Governour of *Rome* to assist at the publick Functions, and to take place of the Ambassadors. This gave great Offence to all the Foreign Ambassadors, who thought it an Affront to the Dignity of their Character, that the Governour of the City, who is only a Prelate, and who in the Presence of his own Sovereign, can pretend to be nothing but a Criminal Magistrate, should offer to take place of the Representatives of Sovereign Princes. They carried their Complaints to Court, but met with no manner of Redress, And for this Reason, none of the Ambassadors appear in publick, except the *Venetian* Ambassador, who abstains likewise from all the publick Functions. The King of *France* to avoid the Contest at present, gives the Title of Ambassador to one of his own Cardinals.

The Patience with which all the Princes bore this Injury done to their Representatives, animated the Pope to go on with lessening their Authority in *Rome*. He protested solemnly to all the Ambassadors, that he would not suffer the least Franchise in their Quarters; and made the City Guards go over them all, that he might take away from the Princes and People of *Rome*, that great Encouragement they had for committing Abuses, in hopes to shelter themselves from Punishment by retiring into those Places of Refuge. It is certain, that these Franchises, claim'd by the Foreign Ministers in *Rome*, are a great Abuse, and endanger the Peace and Tranquillity of the City. For they pretend not only an Exemption for the

Houses in which they themselves live with their Families, which is but reasonable ; but they extend this Immunity to the whole Quarter of the City round their Palaces ; so that the House of every Cobler, living in that Quarter of the Town, must be held as sacred as that of the Ambassador. This the Ambassadors do, that they may have all those People intirely at their Devotion ; but 'tis plainly a wresting the Inhabitants of the City from under the Jurisdiction of their Prince. And if this Practice were tolerated, when there are many Ambassadors in *Rome*, the whole City would be nothing but one intire Sanctuary of Robbers and Murtherers, who would dare to commit their Villanies openly in the Streets, without dread of Punishment.

These Orders which the Pope gave for restricting the excessive Authority of Ambassadors at *Rome*, having met with all the Success he could wish for, his Holiness thought he had no great Occasion for able Ministers about him in the Palace. And therefore he named for Secretary of State Cardinal *Paulucci*, who is a Person of no great Experience ; and chose for Datary Cardinal *Sacripante*, a Man of indefatigable Pains, and most fit for that Imployment, but endow'd with no singular Quality, except that of being a good Advocate. He made *Monsignor Olivieri*, his Nephew by a Sister, Secretary of the Briefs, which Office he had already exercis'd under him with great Applause. He put into the Places about his own Person, his old Friends and Dependents, such as *Monsignor Paracciani*, a great Lawyer, whom he chose for his Auditor. *Monsignor Origo* was named Secretary of the Memorials ; *Monsignor Passionei* Secretary of the Cyphers, *Monsignor Zeccadoro* Secretary of the Latin Letters, who was afterwards assassinated by his own Servant in the Palace ; *Monsignor Massei* was made Cup-bearer, and many others put into other Posts. They are most of them Persons of no great Extraction, born in *Urbino*, or some of the neighbouring Towns ; and who having never seen any other place than *Rome*, have but a mean Notion of Princes, and no great Knowledge of the Affairs of the World. He did not incline to take in-

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to the Palace any of the Cardinals that are able Statesmen nor any Ministers that depend upon them; preferring his own Quiet and Authority to the Counsels of others; with which he will not be much troubled from the Persons he has taken into his Family, who have no great Experience in Affairs, and who are already jealous and distrustful of one another.

He refused likewise to put into any Post *Don Horatius* his Brother, Father of three Sons, and a Man of great Modesty and Integrity, leaving him and his Family in the same low Condition they were in before his Exaltation; that he might, at least in outward appearance, observe the Bull against Nepotism, which he swore to anew the Day he was placed in the Throne. The eldest of *Don Horatius's* Sons, *Don Hannibal* by Name, who is about five and twenty Years old, is as yet no farther advanced than to be Canon of *St. Peter's Church*. It is he whom the Pope designs to make Cardinal, and Head of his Faction. He keeps him constantly about his own Person, and makes him apply himself closely to his Studies, and perform all the publick Exercises for his Degrees, that he may seem to have merited by his Learning, the greatest Dignity in the Church. The two younger Sons have received no other Honour, than to be made Knights of *Maltha* and *St. Stephen*, the Great Master of *Maltha*, and the Great Duke of *Toscany* having offer'd to assign them considerable Revenues out of their Orders; but the Pope, altho' he consented to their accepting of the Crosses, would not hear of their taking any of the Commandries of the Order. His Niece, who might have been married into the best Families of *Rome*, has enter'd herself a Nun, of one of the austere Orders, since her Uncle's Accession to the Throne.

The Pope having settled in this manner the Affairs of his Household, began to turn his Thoughts towards the great Concerns of *Europe*; with respect to which he gave great Signs of a most irresolute and doubtful Mind. He seem'd at first inclin'd to engage himself in the Defence of Cardinal *Bouillon*, Dean of the College of Cardinals. But the *French King* told him roundly, that Princes derive their Authority immediately from
b 2
God,

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God, having an absolute Power over all their Subjects of what Rank soever; and therefore persisted to have this contumacious Cardinal to retire to his Abbey in *France*, which he had assign'd him for his Confinement, and deprived him of the considerable Offices he held of the Crown. The Pope durst not insist in opposing the Resolutions of that powerful Monarch; but under the Pretext of revenging this his Encroachment on the Ecclesiastical Immunities, covering however under this pretext more hidden Views, he refused to grant the Investiture of *Naples* to the Duke of *Anjou*, after he had own'd him for Lawful Heir to the Crown of *Spain*, and after having in full Consistory, highly commended his most Christian Majesty, for yielding up that Throne to his Grandson, and abandoning the Project of the Treaty of Partition, much more advantageous to *France*.

The Death of the late King of Spain *Charles* the II^d, having open'd a vast Theatre for all the Princes of *Europe* to exercise their Prudence, Constancy and Conduct, the Pope, that he might not be deceiv'd himself, chose to delude the Cunning of others; hiding under a profound and impenetrable Dissimulation, his own real Sentiments, which he has hitherto most industriously conceal'd from every Body, but more especially from those with whom he appear'd to be most sincere and open-hearted in his Discourses. He first communicated his Thoughts to the Republick of *Venice*, pretending to them, that he was firmly resolv'd to oppose the Introduction of any Foreign Troops into *Italy*. To this end, he wrote most earnest exhortatory Briefs to the Princes, and gave Orders to his Nuncios, to use their utmost Endeavours for bringing on a Treaty. He said that he would dispatch Legates à *Latere* to the Courts, nay, that he would go himself in Person to reconcile the Christian Princes; that he would drain his Treasure, and imploy all his Arms both Spiritual and Temporal, to prevent the Rupture, and to avert the many Evils with which *Italy* seem'd to be threaten'd. He afterwards invited all the Princes of *Italy* to enter into a League with him, for their common Defence. But after all these specious Invitations,
having

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having propos'd the matter in a full Congregation of State, and heard the Opinions of the Cardinals, whose true Sentiments it is a hard matter to know, he made no farther Progress in the League, but contented himself with observing between the contending Parties an exact Indifferency, which is the true Character of a common Father, and as such he offer'd them his Mediation.

In the mean while, the Pope's Briefs, and the Remonstrances of his Nuncios, had produced quite different Effects at the Courts. The two Crowns of *France* and *Spain*, seeing themselves in possession of the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, refused absolutely to give up one inch of Ground for procuring a Peace. On the other hand, the Emperor, who was in possession of no part of the Succession, modestly answer'd, that he would promise on his part to send no Troops into *Italy*, provided the *French* would march out of it, and that the Kingdom of *Naples* were deposited in the Hands of the Pope, and the Dutchy of *Milan* in the Hands of some other Prince. The Pope was so well pleas'd with this specious Answer from the Court of *Vienna*, that being wholly bent on bringing this plausible Project to bear, he commended highly the Emperor's Moderation, and inveigh'd bitterly against the Haughtiness of the two Crowns. Then thinking that might perhaps influence them, he appear'd outwardly to be more favourably inclin'd to the Emperor than to the other Party, whom he resolv'd to keep in submission, by delaying the Investiture of *Naples*.

There is one thing greatly remarkable in this Pope's Conduct in the present Juncture of Affairs, that to the many pressing Sollicitations that have been made him by the contending Parties, he has always answer'd every one of them with all imaginable Frankness, and in outward appearance, with the greatest Sincerity and openness of Heart, telling them that the Reason why he does not declare himself, is the fear he has of the present Juncture, and the Necessity he is under to act the Part of a just and impartial Judge in a matter of so great Moment, but that he is fully persuaded of the Equity of their Cause, and is resolv'd at last to pronounce Sentence in their Favour. The Ambassa-

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dors both of the Emperor, and of the two Crowns, have been so inveigled with these fine words, that every one of them has always believ'd the Pope to be secretly inclin'd to his Master's Interest. This being an undoubted Truth, confirm'd by the Ambassadors themselves, there is all the Reason in the World to think, that each of the contending Parties has sent an Army into *Italy*, in hopes that when their Army was on the place, the Pope would not any longer conceal his secret Inclinations to favour them. And in all appearance, this has been one of the strongest Motives for the Duke of *Anjou's* leaving *Spain*, in such a critical time to go to *Italy*; that his Presence in this Country might procure him the Investiture of *Naples*, and oblige the Pope to declare for him.

This Conduct of the Pope has hitherto, in a great measure, preserv'd his own Dominions from the Desolation of the War; but whether it be grounded altogether upon solid Prudence, Time will discover. However, there are some great Men at the Court of *Rome*, who are of Opinion, that these cunning Artifices will one Day or other prove fatal to the Pope and his Subjects. I have been told, that a certain Cardinal of great Repute, made one Day serious Reflexions on this Subject to the Pope; who was so much touch'd therewith, that he answer'd the Cardinal with great Humility and Distrust of himself, saying that the present Juncture of Affairs was so very ticklish, and the Event so uncertain, that he very often thought one way, and soon after resolv'd on the quite contrary; knowing but too well, to his sad Experience, that altho' he had been reputed a good Counsellor to other Popes, yet he was not able to take a good Advice to himself, now at a time he stood so much in need of it.

When any of the Cardinals speak to the Pope on this Subject, he tells them plainly, that it is not such an easie matter to discern which of the contending Princes may prove least fatal to *Italy*, and whose Neighbourhood may be least dangerous to *Rome*. He says, that when he reflects on one side, on the Violence, Boldness and Pride of the *Germans*, and on their Pretensions to the Sovereign Dominion over a
great

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great part of *Italy*, and even over *Rome* it self, he cannot be very fond of their Neighbourhood. On the other side, he is in a maze, when he considers the Volubility, and the fierce Temper of the *French*, and especially when he reflects on the Customs and Rights of the *Gallican* Church, which he fears will be introduced into all the *Spanish* Dominions, to the Ruine of the See of *Rome*; which at least runs the hazard of losing the great Revenue of the *Datary*, which is, as it were, the Milk of *Rome*, and an ever-flowing Fountain of Riches for the Popes. These are, in effect, the Reasons why the Pope is so irresolute and undetermin'd in his Proceedings. If he appears sometimes to be wholly *French* in his Genius, and at other times to favour the *German* Interest, it is according as these dreadful Consequences, from either the one or the other Party's prevailing, make the deepest Impression on his Mind. This is what makes him put on so many different Shapes, and speak in so many different Languages.

He first pretended to oppose the Descent of any Foreign Troops at all into *Italy*, then only of the *Germans*, the *French* being already got in. He once made a shew of levying an Army of between eight and ten thousand Men, which afterwards dwindled away into three thousand *Swisses*. He invited anew all the Princes of *Italy* to enter into an Alliance, for their common Defence. But he soon repented him of this Design, and much more of the Money thrown away in gathering together about three thousand, partly Boys, and partly Vagabonds of *Rome*, to whom he gave for Captains some little inconsiderable Dependents of the Cardinals. He resolv'd at last to guard his own Dominions, not so much with an Army, as with the Reputation of his Character, by Negotiations, and Protestations, that he would declare against any of the contending Powers, that should first offer to invade his Territories.

There was one occasion on which the Pope was disturbed in good earnest, when he threw off, as it were, his natural Reservedness of Temper; and that was upon the Revolt in *Naples*. For viewing the Danger so near, and the War, as it were, at the Gates of

Rome, he left no Stone unturn'd to avert it. For this end he wrote several Briefs to Cardinal *Cantelmi*, Archbishop of *Naples*, and set all Engines at work to extinguish so dangerous a Flame. This begat in him a great Aversion to the *Germans*; when he discover'd that such a dangerous Conspiracy had been form'd, and carried on in *Rome*, without his having the least notice of it.

The Pope, by proposing an Alliance among the Princes of *Italy*, for their mutual Defence, obtains two very considerable Ends. The one is, that he makes himself, by this means, be respected among Foreign Princes. The other is, that this gives him an Opportunity of penetrating, with certainty, into the Inclinations of the *Italian* Princes, and particularly of the Republick of *Venice*, which he has several times suspected of carrying on some private Treaty, sometimes with the one, and sometimes with the other Party. And then again by breaking off this Treaty as soon as it is proposed, he has this Advantage, of not giving too great a Jealousie to the Princes in War, that have powerful Armies on his Confines, which are committing great Devastations in the neighbouring State of *Venice*. So that after he has made his Ministers propose the Treaty to the *Italian* Princes, he makes a Sacrifice of them, obliging them to retract the things they have said.

The Princes of *Italy* having plainly discover'd the cunning of all these Artifices of the Pope; and knowing very well, that, besides Prayers, they could depend on no great Succour from *Rome*, chose to answer the Proposals made to them by his Holiness, with a bare Declaration of their Zeal for the Peace and Quiet of their Country, and of their hearty Wishes for an Union among all the Princes, and an intire Conformity in their Counsels. And altho' the Pope has sometimes demanded from them a clearer and more positive Answer, protesting that he himself was ready to act in good earnest; yet this was only thought to be a blind for that part of *Italy* that lies groaning under the Miseries of the War, that the Inhabitants might see his readiness to succour them.

One remarkable Instance of the Pope's Fickleness and Inconstancy in his Resolutions, in the present Juncture of Affairs, was when he propos'd to the *Venetians* to put, jointly with them, a Garrison into *Mantona*, a Town of so strong Defence, and of great Consequence to the Peace of *Italy*. He sent one Day for the *Venetian* Ambassador, and talk'd to him of it with so great Seriousness, and such mature Reflections on the great Importance of this Design, that the Ambassador sent immediately to communicate it to the Senate. But the Pope, instead of waiting for a Return, resolv'd to set up his own Standard in the Place, being desirous to have the Fame solely to himself, of having preserv'd, from the Hands of Foreigners, a Place of that Importance. But in this he was prevented by the *French* and *Spanish* Troops, the Duke of *Mantona* having deliver'd the Town into their Hands.

The bad Success which the Pope had in this Enterprize taught him to be still more slow, and equivocal in all his Actions. The Ambassadors do all of them declare, that in every Audience, they find him always upon a new Scheme, and different from what he was before; being constant in nothing but Piety, and his good Wishes for the Peace of *Europe*. He is acknowledg'd by all Persons to be a Man of a holy Life; and he is full of excellent Designs for reforming the Discipline of the Church. He is a zealous Defender of the Ecclesiastical Immunities, a punctual Observer of the Rites and Ceremonies, and a Revenger of the Wrongs, which he pretends the Princes have done to the See of *Rome*. He is very devout, most courteous and obliging; and all Persons that have any Business with him, find him constantly genteel and civil; he having a most lovely Carriage, with all those polite and engaging Ways, with which he seems to have studied to deserve the Papacy, and yet not to desire it. In effect, he refus'd it with so much Contempt, that the City of *Rome*, which is always ready to put a bad Construction on the Actions of its Princes, look'd upon his Refusal as somewhat ominous. And the Pope himself was wont to say, that his Repugnancy did not proceed so much from the
Insuf-

Insufficiency of his own Talents, as from a secret Fore-sight of some great Calamities that would happen under his unfortunate Government.

This Pope is young, has a great deal of Fore-sight, and is very zealous; but he is fearful in his Nature, and circumspect, so that he will not rashly fall out with any of the Princes. 'Tis thought he will defer as long as he can the Promotion of Cardinals, that he may thereby weaken the Factions of the Crowns, and strengthen his own Party, by the great number of Cardinals he makes at his first Promotion, which will all be Dependants of his Family. For in the first Promotion, the Pope is left intirely to his own free Choice; but in the second Promotion he makes, the Crown'd Heads put in their several Claims for a Cardinal's Cap to one of their Subjects. So that the longer the Pope puts off his first Promotion, the Number of his own Creatures will be the greater; and it will be a longer time before there are Vacancies enough to make room for a Promotion for the Crowns.

The Pope has a most tender Love for his Brother, and Nephews, and will perhaps in time raise their Fortune considerably, tho' not with the Money of the Treasury. He is frugal and saving in his Expences, and his great Parsimony will be apt to give some Jealousie to the neighbouring Princes, lest the Wealth he hoards up, should one day or other inspire him with the thought of answering the Intent the Cardinals had in placing him in the Throne; which was, that he might redress the many Injuries the Court of *Rome* pretends to have received from the Princes. To divert the Pope from bending his Thoughts this way, the Princes will strive all they can to engage him to lay out his Money upon stately and magnificent Buildings, upon erecting Pyramids, Fountains, and other Embellishments, for adorning the City of *Rome*. They will commend highly his Zeal for Religion, and encourage him to go on with his Missions to the *Indies*, and with his great Designs for propagating the Christian Faith; that exhausting his Treasure upon such great and glorious Undertakings, it may not be in his Power to give any Disturbance to his Neighbours.

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bours. *Philip* the II^d, King of *Spain*, in the Instructions which he sent to his Ambassador at the Court of *Rome*, before the meeting of a Conclave, recommends to him, above all things, to take care, that none be advanced to the Papacy, except such Persons as are well stricken in Years, Men of weak Parts, timorous in their Nature, having a great Desire to raise their Family, and *Romans* by Extraction.

Of all the States in *Italy*, the Republick of *Venice* has most Reason to have a watchful Eye over the Motions of the Court of *Rome*. It being a powerful State, bordering on the Territories of the Church, gives the greatest Jealousie to the Popes; and the severe Laws which the *Venetians* have made against the Order of Ecclesiasticks, has, in a manner, procured them the Hatred of the whole Court. Even the Cardinals that are subjects to the Republick, appear oftentimes the least favourable to its Interest. The *Venetians* not having the Nomination of their own Cardinals, as Kings have, the *Venetian* Cardinals look upon themselves to be altogether independent of their own Republick, and join in with what Faction of the Cardinals they please. So that altho' the *Venetians* have several Cardinals in the College, that are eminent for their Birth, Merit, and Parts, and are esteem'd great Politicians; yet they being altogether independent of their Sovereigns, and having the free Disposall of their own Votes, the Republick has little or no hand in the Election of a Pope. Whereas the Cardinals of other Nations, when they go to *Rome* about the Election of a Pope, before they enter into the Conclave, they are obliged to wait on their Ambassador, and concert Measures with him, how they shall best carry on their Master's Interest. Nay, even the Fryars that go to the General Chapter of their Order held at *Rome*, are bound to visit the Ambassador of their Nation, and receive from his Hands the Directions of the Court, as to the Choice of a General of their Order. And if the General Chapter is held at any other place, Princes take care to give their Instructions to the several Convents of their Country, before they send their Deputies to the General Chapter. The Princes are so
jealous

jealous of the Pope's making any Encroachment on their Rights, or extending his Power within their Territories to the Prejudice of their Sovereignty, that they do not permit their Subjects to give in any Petitions, or Memorials, to the Court of *Rome*, but by the Hands of their Ambassadors; altho' they concern things purely Spiritual, such as Dispensations for Marriage, and the like. Every Nation has a publick Expeditionary at *Rome*, whom the Subjects are obliged to imploy in drawing up the Memorials which they are to give in to the Court.

The Great Duke of *Toscany* carries his Dignity very high at the Court of *Rome*, receiving almost the same Treatment as the Crown'd Heads do. They are greatly afraid of his Power, because of the many Adherents he has among the Cardinals, and the many Votes which he finds Ways and Means to procure in a Conclave. They give him the Title of Royal Highness; and when he was at *Rome* in the last Pontificate, altho' he would not receive any Visits from the Cardinals, that he might not be obliged to give them the Right Hand; yet the Pope call'd a Consistory on purpose that he might see the Ceremony, being placed in a sort of latticed Desk, from whence he might conveniently see all the Company, and yet not be seen himself. When the Consistory broke up, all the Cardinals went and presented themselves at the Window of the Desk where the Duke was, making their Compliments to him, not only with their Caps off, but having likewise their red Calots in their Hands, which they seldom pull off even in the Churches.

The Duke of *Savoy*, being jealous of the great Honours paid to the Duke of *Toscany* by the Court of *Rome*, and not having Interest enough among the Cardinals to maintain his own Dignity at that Court, betakes himself to vigorous Resolutions, of asserting his own Rights and Privileges, and demanding from the Pope the same Treatment, in all respects, that he gives to Crown'd Heads. He knows very well, that the only way to obtain any thing at the Court of *Rome*, is by a resolute Perseverance in his Demands. This wise and politick Prince, knowing of what Importance it is, to
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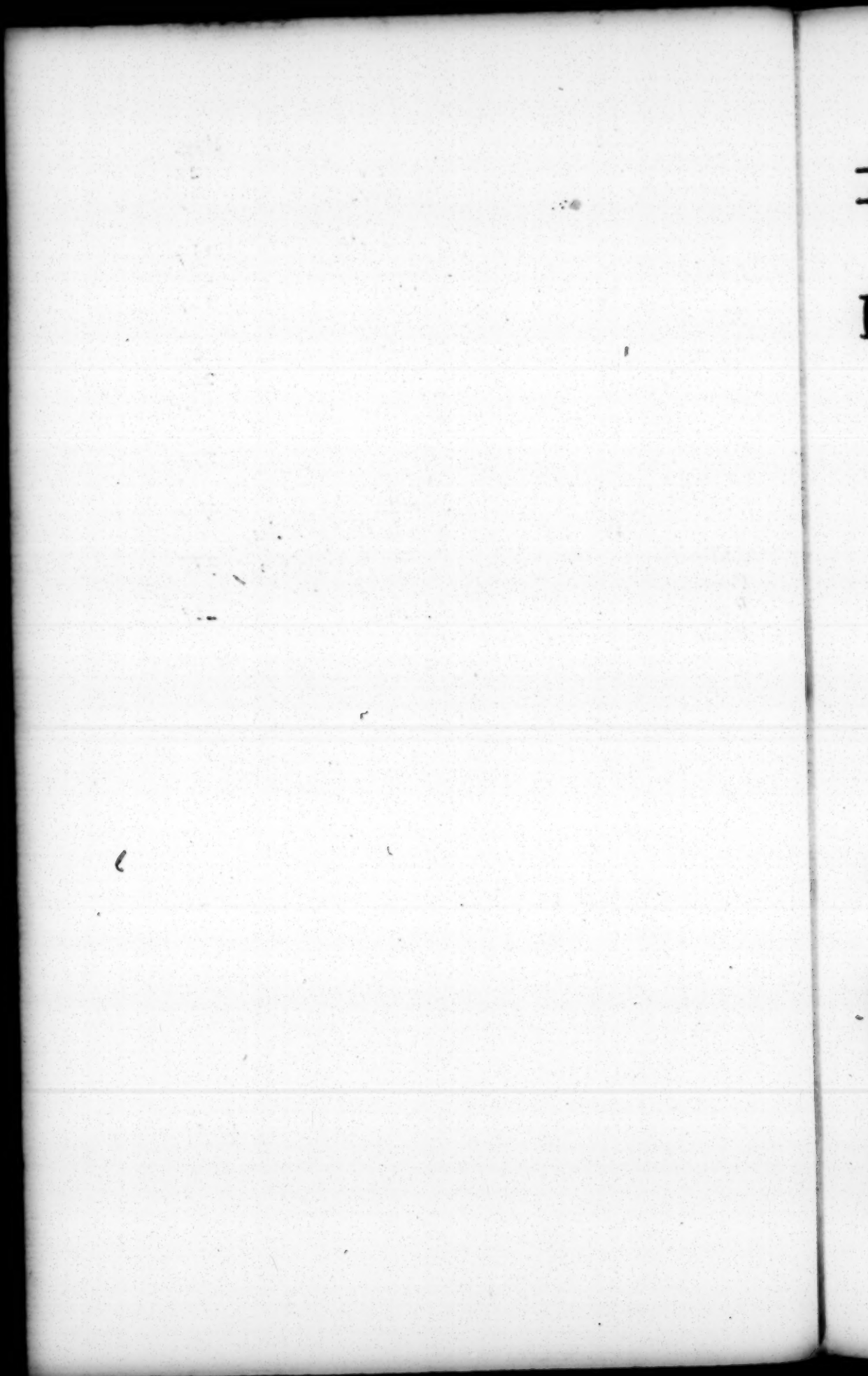
breed up able Persons at a Court, with which he himself has so near Concerns, and which he knows to have so great Influence over the Counsels of other Princes, has kept one at *Rome* above these sixteen Years, who by his long Residence at the Court, has been able to penetrate into all their Maxims of Government, and discover their most hidden Mysteries of State. So that he now asserts his Master's Rights at that Court, with so much Vigour, and so good Success, that he not only gives great Satisfaction to his own Sovereign, but raises an Emulation in other Princes to follow his Example ; they being all of them sensible how necessary it is for their Interest, to bring up some able Persons at this School of Politicks.

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1

THE
PRESENT STATE
OF THE
Court of *ROME*.

THE
L I F E
OF
ALDERAN CYBO,
Cardinal Bishop,
Dean of the Sacred College, and
Bishop of *Ostia and Velletri*.

HE was born in *Massa of Carrara*, the 25th of *June*, 1613. and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the Xth, the 6th of *March*, 1645.

It is but little I have to say of this Cardinal, he not being consider'd as one of the Candidates for the Triple Crown, because of his incapacity for so high a Post; he being decrepit, and grown Childish again with Years; unfit for managing
B any

any Affair whatever, and much more for transacting matters of the greatest moment, which are inseparably annex'd to so great an Office. In his Legateships of *Urbino*, *Romagna*, and *Ferrara*, he show'd himself to be of a very austere Temper; to be Cholerick, and Revengeful, Malicious, and hugely Covetous; having likewise exercised great Rigour in the Administration of his Governments. Under the Pontificate of *Innocent* the XIth, this Cardinal gave sufficient proofs of his being of a *French* Genius, and particularly in the Affair of the Marquis of *Lavardin*, for whose defence he always fell out with the Pope. And altho' his Holiness knew very well every thing that was done in the Marquis's Palace, yet *Cybo* would always undertake to vindicate him from what was laid to his charge; so that he had almost set the whole City of *Rome* together by the Ears. But for this his great partiality, he was sufficiently mortified by the Pope, in the Presence of Cardinal *Chigi*; and afterwards his Holiness clipt the wings of his Authority.

It is certain, that this Cardinal, in former days, show'd himself to be of a haughty cholerick Temper, falling into Passion many times for trivial matters; but he himself soon perceived his Anger, and suppress'd it; so that, in the Opinion of *St. Austin*, *Qui facile irascuntur, iram minime continent, sed reddunt*. But however, he never went to Bed in Wrath; and he not only laid aside his Anger, but followed exactly the Counsel of the wise Man who said, *Quod nullum evidens iracundiae vestigium oportet relinquere; sed simul atque deseruerit, atque reddiderit animi tumor, omnium praeteritorum malorum memoriam tollendam esse*.

After the Death of *Innocent* the XIth, in the Conclave, in which *Alexander* the VIIIth was raised

raised to the Papacy, this Cardinal entred into a strict commerce with Cardinal *D'Estrées*, to whom he had written while he was in *France*, acquainting him with what he had done in favour of that Monarchy. It is certain, that the Duke of *Chaunes*, when he delivered his Embassy to this Court, expressed himself highly in favour of this Cardinal. The House of *Altieri* is his Enemy, they having opposed him in all the Conclaves; and the deceased Cardinal *Altieri* declared himself openly, upon all Occasions, his bitter Enemy. There is no good Correspondence passes between him and Cardinal *Ottoboni*, Cardinal *Cybo* having disapprov'd of the exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, first in a Conference with Cardinal *Chigi*, and afterwards with *Don Livio Odescalchi*, to whom he open'd his mind very freely, blaming him that he had not in that Conclave, made use of his Authority, for elevating to the Papal Throne one of the Creatures of his Uncle. Cardinal *Pamfilio* will not fail to use all possible endeavours for the advancement of this Cardinal, he having already show'd his good will to him in several Conclaves, by procuring him Friends to assist him in his pretensions to the Papal Dignity. Upon the Death of *Alexander* the VIIIth, this Cardinal look'd upon his own Exaltation as certain, he having the Crown of *France* favourable to him, and being in a good Correspondence with some of the Cardinals of the *Spanish* Faction, and particularly with Cardinal *Aghirre*, who had a great Veneration for him.

For sometime past this Cardinal has given himself up to a retired austere Life, wholly intent on the saving of his Soul, and having his Mind filled with pious and godly Thoughts, distributing Alms to the Poor, and doing other good

Works. So that for these his good Qualities he was held in great Esteem, but considered rather as a Saint fit to be translated into Heaven, than to be declared Christ's Vicar here on Earth; he having, as it were, buried himself within the Walls of a good warm Chamber in his own Palace, which the House of *Pamfilio* had given him, in hopes of seeing him raised to a greater Dignity.

His declining Age did not permit him to make the same Figure of late, as he did in former days in many Conclaves; he being grown perfectly like a Child, neither understanding what others say, nor able to make himself understood, because of the difficulty he had in his pronunciation. So that he being thus grown incapable of any greater Fortune, we may very justly apply to him, what *Seneca* said of such another Heroe, *Bis pueri senes*.

Having been attacked with several Fits of an Apoplexy, and Palsy, he departed this Life on the 22d of *July*, 1700. He left his Nephew, the Duke of *Massa of Carrara*, his Executor, charging him with several Legacies, and particularly one of Three Thousand Roman Crowns, to be distributed among his Domesticks, on whom he had not time to settle Pensions, as he intended. His funeral Obsequies were performed in the Church called *Giesu* belonging to the Jesuites on the 24th of *July*, according to the usual form; and afterwards his Corps was transported with a solemn Cavalcade; to be buried in the Church called *Madonna del Popolo*, in a Chapel belonging to his Ancestors, which was founded by *Innocent* the VIIIth, who was of the Family of *Cybo*, and was adorn'd by this Cardinal with fine Pictures, and precious Marbles.

T H E
L I F E
O F

Emanuel Theodisus Bouillon.

Cardinal Bishop,

Subdean of the Sacred College, and
Bishop of *Porto*.

HE was born in one of his own Mannors, the 17th of *October*, 1643. and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the IXth, the 5th of *August*, 1669.

For a *French-man*, it is certain, he is very Modest, and has been reputed such here from his Youth, when he came to the Conclave of *Clement* the Xth. But the late warlike Preparations which he made upon your Excellencies publick Entry, have not tended much to his Glory, neither has it been to his Advantage the succeeding, in the Management of the Affairs of the Court of *France*, to Cardinal *Janson*, whose Conduct has been highly esteem'd. However, in that Post he always kept up his Credit, and lived with great *decorum*. And if he had lived thus many Years ago in *France*, abstaining from some Vices, and particularly Gaming, in which formerly he lavish'd away all his Patrimony

6 *The L I F E of, &c.*

trimony, he had not fallen under the King's Displeasure; altho' the true and secret Cause of it was the Rivalry of his Most Christian Majesty in the Affection of the Princess of *Biffon*. He is descended of the illustrious Blood of the Dukes of *Auvergne*, Son to the Duke of *Bouillon*, and Nephew to the great Marshal *Turenne*, who embraced the Catholick Faith to have him made a Cardinal. Before he obtain'd the Sacred Purple he was called by the Name of Duke *Albert*, and even at present he lives with the Vanity of a Sovereign Prince, which has always given Offence to his most Christian Majesty.

This great Cardinal studied from his Youth in the *Sorbonne*, where he made wonderful Progress in the School Divinity, in which he excels any other Cardinal whatever, in the Holy Scripture, in the Exposition of the Primitive Fathers, in the Knowledge of the Councils, and in the Interpretation of the Canons. He had great Abbeyes given him, and was declared great Almoner of *France*. When he accompanied that Monarch in his Conquests in *Holland*, he consecrated anew many Churches. In the four Conclaves, at which he has assisted, he gain'd a tolerable Reputation with this Court, being esteemed discreet, genteel, well bred, attentive, generous, affable, courteous, and serviceable; somewhat punctilious, but a true Friend to his Friends. It is certain that he shines greatly in the Sacred College, with which he is in so good Reputation, that it renders him immortal; and that deservedly, he being a Man of great Probity and Integrity; for which Reason the same Encomium may be applied to him which the Panegyrist gives *Trajan*, *Amicos habet, quia Amicus ipse est.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Lewis Portocarrero.

Cardinal Bishop of *Palestrina*.

HE was born in *Spain* in the Month of *September*, 1629. and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the IXth, the 5th of *August*, 1669.

He is Son to the Count of *Palma*, Marquis of *Montes Clacos de Castel de Varuela*, and *Alulor-mala*. He was declared Coadjutor to the Dean of the Metropolitan Church of *Toledo*, with consent of the Dean *Don Alfonso Portocarrero* his Uncle. At the request of the Duke of *Infantado* his Kinsman, who was at that time Ambassador to *Innocent* the Xth, from *Philip* the IVth of happy Memory, he was made *Somiglier di Cortina* of the Royal Palace; and afterwards the King's Visitor of the great Temple of *St. James* the Apostle, Protector of the *Spanish* Dominions, to whose Sanctuary he gave sumptuous and rich Donatives. After the Death of Cardinal *Sandoval*, he was made President of the Government of the Church of *Toledo*, of which he afterwards took Possession, in the Name of the New Archbishop Cardinal *Pasquale d'Arrogonia*, at that time Vice-

roy of *Naples*; and in his absence he exercised the Charge of Vicar-General. The first great Chaplainship, which is endowed with a considerable Revenue, and was founded some time ago by Queen *Katharine*, having been vacant upon the occasion of this Promotion to the Archbishoprick of *Toledo*, this Cardinal obtained it from the said Queen Regent, who afterwards got it confirmed to him by the King's Nomination, and by Delegation from the Pope. In the General Chapter of the Order of *Malta* in the Dominions of *Spain*, held at the Convent of *St. Bartholomy of Luppiana*, this Cardinal had conferr'd on him, for his good Services, the Bishoprick of *Granata*, which he constantly refused.

In fine, *Clement* the IXth having a mind to show to the World a feigned Joy, in the time of his excessive Grief, for the Death of *Thomas Rospigliosi* his most beloved Nephew, who died in *Rome* on Sunday the 4th of *August*, 1669. the very Morning after his Death, when his Corps was yet expos'd, the Pope made the Promotion for the Crowns of *Spain* and *France*. For this last he named *Bouillon*, reserving in his Breast the other, which he left to the will of the Deceased Queen, who by this means came to know the Creature, before he was known to the Creator himself. In this manner the Pope pretended to oblige the two Crowns; that is, that of *France* his Darling, and this of *Spain* by a Cunning without Example, of putting the Election in the will of the Queen; so that the Person named by her, should be understood to have been promoted on the fore-mentioned 5th of *August*, at which time his Holiness had not so much as received the Nomination.

Upon

Cardinal PORTOCARRERO. 9

Upon the Death of the said Pope, he came to *Rome* on the 19th of *April*, 1670. towards the latter end of that Conclave, into which he entered the 23d of the said Month; and *Pasquin*, as soon as he heard that this Cardinal was endeavouring the Exaltation of *Cerri* his Fellow-Creature, made this Anagram on his Surname *Porto carrero*, that is *Portarò Cerro*.

After the Death of the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, in the time of the War of *Messina*, he was made in his place Viceroy of *Sicily* for the time, in which Post he gave proof of his indifferent Ability, and of his great Zeal for the Service of his Royal Master. Cardinal *d'Arragona* dying on the 28th of *September*, 1677. this Cardinal was made Archbishop of *Toledo*, where he lives at present, wholly intent on the Custody of his Flock, with the same holy Zeal that he applies himself to the better Government of the decaying Monarchy. He has got so much into Favour with this King, that his Majesty has intreated him several times to be his Privy Counsellor, to which he would never yield; that he might not fall into the same Misfortunes with other Favourites. Nevertheless, he assists both at the King's publick and private Councils, in order to serve him in these great Disorders of his Court.

Having made himself Head of the Party of the Zealots for the King's Service, he opposed himself totally to that of the Queen; who is exceeding powerful, because of the great Affection which her Royal Consort bears to her, and by consequence to all her Dependents, who are not few in Number, they sailing before the Wind. However, he is not esteemed to be a great Head-piece, for which reason he was reputed

ted by *Pasquin* of *Madrid* to be dull without Remedy. But he has been always known to be most Generous, Pious, Gallant, Courteous, Affable, and Serviceable; to be of a good Nature, and to have been in former Days a great Gallant of the Ladies; in Conversation with whom, and for whose Divertisement, he has spent prodigious Sums, which he now lays out in publick and private Alms with an Universal Applause; so that he deserves the Praise of *Symmachus*. *Nullus de eo rumor adversus, nulla conquestio.*

T H E
L I F E
O F
Nicholas Acciaiuoli,
Cardinal Bishop.

HE was born in *Florence* the 13th. of *April* 1631, and was raised to the Cardinalship by *Clement* the IXth. the 5th. of *August* 1669.

Pope *Alexander* the VIIth. made him first one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, * and afterwards Auditor of the same.

He may reasonably hope for all manner of Assistance in his high Expectations from those that are Friends, or have any Dependence on the two Houses of *Chigi* and *Rospigliosi*.

This Cardinal has more Presumption than Learning, has a tolerable Capacity, and considerable Parts; he is of great Application, and highly upright, which makes him capable of any Command whatever: He has a fluent Tongue, is open Hearted,

* *Chierico della Camera Apostolica.*

Hearted, Expedition, Just, Laborious, Indefatigable, Charitable, of pious and good Intentions, and of unspotted Justice; yet for all this his Enemies have accused him of being of an Arbitrary and Despotical Temper, inclined to Partiality, and to particular Interest, hard to be persuaded, and inflexible in his own Maxims.

Others of his Enemies have represented him as proud, severe, hot, and passionate, as being a Reformer, of an unsociable Temper, and too great a Zealot, or rather too headstrong. But I can assure you that he has a great Deference for the Advice of others, that his Zeal is guided with Discretion, and that he is moderate enough in his Designs, he's easily persuaded by Reason, but gives no Ear to any thing that is either impertinent or unjust, he having a great Aversion to all manner of Injustice.

In the Government of *Ferrara*, of which he has been twice Legate, he made his Rigour appear by administering Justice punctually, he having on all Occasions faithfully performed what the Duty of his Character required; and altho' his Enemies have reproached him with too great Severity, yet he has always been applauded by the Inhabitants of *Ferrara*, who petitioned Pope *Innocent* the XIth. to have him confirmed in that Government, they making great Encomiums on him, and shutting their Gates to prevent his leaving them.

The constant Correspondence which he and his Relations have always cultivated with the House of *Tuscany*, ought to make him depend assuredly on their Protection; and yet I do not know whether in good Politicks the Great Duke ought to contribute any thing towards raising him to the Papal Dignity; (nay, I know for certain that he will always hinder what he can the Advancement of

of any of his Subjects that have many and great Relations) because of the Loss he would have of a great many Families, who would leave his Dominions and resort to *Rome* if this Cardinal were made Pope. Besides, the vulgar Opinion which People have of his proud and haughty Temper, and of his Brother *Philip's* being much more so, who would be the Favourite Cardinal, and have the whole Administration of Affairs in his Hands, against whom there lye great Exceptions, because of his vicious and depraved Inclinations, of his being wholly addicted to Pleasure and Pastime, without having any regard to his own Credit. These Prejudices that lye against his own and his Brother's Temper, together with the recent Example of *Urban* the VIIIth, and his Nephews the *Barberins*, will make it a difficult Matter for the Great Duke and other Crowns to concur to the raising of this Cardinal.

The Emperor has already opposed him in the Conclave with an exclusive Vote, at the Desire of the Duke of *Bavaria*; and altho' he has done all that is possible to regain his Favour, by the force of Homage, Respect, and Partiality to the present Ambassador the Count of *Martinitz*, and even in some Things to the Disgust of the reigning * Pope, yet nevertheless he will be now more than ever opposed by his Imperial Majesty, who is united in Interest with the Duke of *Modena*, Allie to the King of the *Romans*, this Cardinal having always been at Variance with the said Duke during the two times that he was Legate of *Ferrara*, as is already mentioned.

For the same Reason he will likewise meet with Opposition from the Republick of *Venice*, with
which

* *Innocent XII.*

which he had continual Differences while he was Legate at *Ferrara*.

The King of *Spain* will in no way concur to his Advancement, because of his Relation to Cardinal *Bonsi*, and to the Family of *Sacchetti*, as being mindful of the repeated Exclusive which that Crown gave two several times to Cardinal *Julius Sacchetti*, and having Suspicion, and that not without Ground, of a Treaty set on foot between this Cardinal and the above-mentioned Cardinal *Bonsi*.

Nor do I believe (by what I have discovered) that his most Christian Majesty either can, or will heartily concur to the raising of this Cardinal, altho' a Creature of *Clement* the IXth, chiefly not to give Disgust to the *Venetians*, and likewise for fear of his natural Temper, which is wholly averse to the suffering any thing of their Petulancy. Now that he has contracted a strict Friendship with the fore mention'd Count *Martinitz*, the Cardinals *Altieri* and *Corfi*, his sworn Enemies, being dead, he will have bigger Hopes of obtaining the great Lot; and even the Crown of *France*, if it should see its Hopes extinguished of getting a *Genouese* promoted to the Papacy, would in this Case perhaps contribute to the Advancement of this Cardinal; as would likewise *Don Livio Odescalchi*, if he should see no Hopes of raising any of the Creatures of his Uncle.

The Cardinal Zealots, and such as are without any Head, ought to assist him, as being one of their Party; but he cannot expect any great Favour from the Creatures of the present Pope, they being little or no ways acceptable to him: Those Cardinals, (which are not few in Number) who opposed him in the two last Conclaves, will much more oppose him now, that they may not remain

remain a Sacrifice to his Revenge; for altho' he is highly just, yet I pray God to keep every one from falling under his Clutches, for he is fierce in his Anger. So that for this Reason, and for what I have hinted at before, it is impossible that ever his Imperial Majesty can concur to his Exaltation, neither can he expect any Favour from the other Crowns, for the Reasons already mentioned.

His Arbitrary and Despotick Countenance, not to call it Tyrannical, together with his natural Propension to Severity, does not render him grateful to the Sacred College, nor acceptable to the People, who are universally afraid lest he should prove another *Sixtus* the Vth, his Maxims differing little from those of the said Pope, for which Reason he is more feared than beloved. Besides, that terrible Look he has, and his Viper's Eye, make him appear to be revengeful enough.

The robust Complexion of this Cardinal, who is only sometimes troubled with a few Symptoms of the Gout, his highness of Spirit, and his reservedness of Temper, will never recommend him either to the Old, or Young Cardinals, and the Affinity he has with the Marchioness *Truglioni* will be prejudicial to him on several Accounts. So that I doubt that the great Negotiations and Treaties that will be set on foot for this Cardinal, will be without a favourable Conclusion, as in the two last Conclaves, in which his Interest having been carried on with too great Eagerness by those of his own Party, who from the first beginning of the present Indisposition of this Pope have set themselves to work again, he is by that means so totally cast down, that it will be a difficult Matter for him to rise again.

T H E
L I F E
O F
Gaspar Carpegna,
Cardinal Bishop.

HE was born in *Rome* the 8th. of *May* 1625, and was promoted to the Dignity of Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth. the 23d. of *December* 1670.

He is endowed with a great many good Qualities of the Mind, among which may be reckoned his universal Learning in all the Sciences, and particularly in the Laws, in the Councils, and in all other Ecclesiastical Matters. 'Tis true, he has a great deal of Austerity in his Looks, altho' a great many will have it, that he is not really so austere as he outwardly appears, he being affable and courteous to all that have any Dealings with him. He has one good Quality, very different from the usual Temper of all other Priests, and that is, that he never promises that which People ask of him, and rather gives them a Denial, but after they have suffered the Disgust and Affliction of being refused, he endeavours by all means possible to procure them that Favour which at first he denied them.

As

As he is learned in all Sciences, so he is indefatigably laborious, and especially in Study, punctual to assist at all the Congregations, and even if it happen that only for his bare Recreation and Pleasure he lives out of *Rome*, as sometimes it has fallen out, yet he never fails to lay aside all Diversion that he may be present at the Congregations. Besides the particular Congregations of which he is appointed a Member, he is call'd to assist at all those which meet on extraordinary Occasions, his Vote being highly esteemed in all Places, and in all Conjunctions.

This Cardinal was in the time of *Alexander* the VIIth, made Auditor of the *Rota*, in the Year 1664. and he being well instructed in the Laws, made his great Parts sufficiently appear in that Post. The same Fortune, backed nevertheless with his own Merit, was favourable to him in the Pontificate of *Clement* the Xth, when he was advanced to the Post of Datary, where he laid up great Sums of Money, as he has done since in the Post of Vicar-General of the Church. Envious People, I do not know whether with Artifice, according to their usual Custom, they have disguised the Truth, or whether they have in reality made good what they give out, but they have not failed to represent him to the World, as being interested; and as such they traduce him, as if for Money he permitted to the *Jews* the Use of their Synagogues in the places destined for our Worship; and that for the same Motive, he had given to the Whores a very ample Liberty to do whatever they most inclined to. But after having made diligent Enquiry into the ground of these, and such like Accusations, I find that they proceed rather from ill-will than from any reality of the Fact.

He is cunning, and attentive, but most obstinate in any Quarrel or Dispute he has with others. He is a Man of great Parts, and able to negotiate Affairs of the greatest Consequence. He is perhaps the only Man that understands best the Interests of Princes, the State of the Ecclesiastick Dominions, and of the City of *Rome*.

Many Cardinals will oppose themselves to the Advancement of this Cardinal, having already bent their Bows, and made themselves ready to strike at him in due time, because he is look'd upon by many to be of a Temper altogether unpolish'd, haughty, disdainful, envious, and headstrong. But otherwise, he's one of the most pleasant, kind, and serviceable Cardinals that is in the sacred College. The House of the *Barberins* will always be against him, because the Cardinal Dean excluded from the Papacy, in the Year 1670, the deceased Cardinal *Ulderico Carpegna*, his Creature, recommended to him by *Chigi* in the first place, when Cardinal *Altieri*, who was the second, carried it; and this he did to prevent the present Cardinal *Carpegna's* being made the favourite Cardinal.

The great Duke of *Toscany*, for the time past, has always taken the Family of *Carpegna* under his particular Protection, and the deceased Count *Marius* served the great Duke *Ferdinand* to the intire Satisfaction of the House of *Medicis*. In the Congregations he has had many Occasions to oblige divers Princes, and all the Crowns, who notwithstanding will not readily concur to his Election, because they fear him too much. He is greatly inclined to the Crown of *France*, but nevertheless, in the matter of the Regale, of so great Importance to that Crown, he always advised and press'd *Innocent* the XIth, to persist in the

the Negative, and would by no means endeavour to bring him over to the Interest of that Monarch. On the contrary, in the Affair touching the Electorat of *Cologne*, he shew'd himself most partial to *France*, as likewise in the Case of the Marquis of *Lavardin*, the *French* Ambassador to this Court, making him believe that it was the *Pope* that had forced him, against his Inclination, to fulminate the Sentence of Excommunication against him.

Then as to *Spain*, altho' he was not pleased with the Excommunication pronounced against the Marquis of *Serra*, by the late *Monsignor Vicentini*, Nuncio of *Naples*; yet this Cardinal Vicar was not altogether free of the Blame, he having in the Appeal brought before him, ratified the Sentence as just. The Crown of *Spain* in several Conclaves shew'd it self inclinable enough to the Exaltation of the other Cardinal *Carpegna*, notwithstanding the Disgust given him by the Count of *Ognatte*, when he procured the Place of the General of the *Theatins* to be taken from his Brother.

Nevertheless, for some hidden Reasons, and because of this Cardinal's Partiality to the *French*, it will be a difficult matter to get *Spain* to concur to his Advancement; altho' Cardinal *Mellini*, when he was Nuncio at that Court, obtained his most Catholick Majesty's Consent to the Election of this worthy Cardinal. And he had the Concurrence of *France* by the means of the Cardinals *d'Estrees*, *Bonsi*, and *Fustembergh*, his intimate Friends.

Cardinal *Tanara* his Relation, who was at that time Nuncio at *Vienna*, procur'd him likewise the Consent of his Imperial Majesty, which has always since been confirmed to him by the means

of the Emperor's two last Ambassadors, *Lichte-stein*, and *Martinitz*. *Don Livio Odescalchi* ought to be favourable to this Cardinal's Interest upon many accounts, and particularly because it was his Eminence that helped him, after his Uncle's Death, to get himself declar'd General of the Church. But the Zealots will by no means concur to make him Pope, and they'll be egg'd on in their Opposition to him by the People of *Rome*, who with their Exclamations against him, surrounded Cardinal *Medici's* Coach, that Day he first went into the Conclave.

In a little time afterwards, when his Cousin, the late Cardinal *Altieri*, because he had no mind to have him Pope, made him be propos'd in order to precipitate him, he was with all manner of Civility advertis'd by Cardinal *Medici*, as Protector of both the Houses of *Austria*, not to prosecute any farther the Project he had set on foot for *Carpegna*, unless he would oblige him to publish the Exclusive he had against him, and which he had always concealed till then.

He has hopes now, that the Abbot *Bonaccorsi*, whom he has oblig'd on several Occasions, and who is gone to serve the Great Duke, may be able to advance his Interest with that Court. He will always have for his head Enemies, the Cardinals *Casanatta*, *Nerli*, and *del Verme*; the second, because of *Carpegna's* Relation to the Marquis of *Baldinotti*, a declared Enemy to the Marquis of *Nerli* the Cardinal's Brother; the first, because of the Antipathy of their Humours; and the third, because of the publick and known Enmity he has had with the worthy Governour of *Rome*, *Monsignor Ranuccio Pallavicini*, Cardinal *del Verme's* Cousin, ever since he was Overseer of *St. Girolamo della Carità*.

His

His Nephews will be of little or no Obstacle to his Preferment, they having always liv'd free from Quarrels and Broils; altho' the Canon is a little hair-brain'd, and is particularly famous for deriding his Neighbour. So that this Cardinal will suffer by that, which ought considerably to recommend him to others; and I doubt, nay am confident, that whenever he catches at the great Lot, all his Projects for that end will prove vain.

THE
LIFE
OF

Cesar D'Estrees.

Cardinal Bishop.

HE was born in *France* the 19th of *December*, 1629. and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth, the 29th of *August*, 1671.

He has one of the most stirring vigilant Heads that are in the sacred College; he fishes in troubled Waters, and brings his Projects safely into Harbour, he has the Maturity of a *Spaniard*, and Quickness of a *Frenchman*. He is flegmatick in Resolving, quick in the Execution, and deep in his Thoughts, which he very often does not divulge, when he foresees the Impossibility of effectuating them. He is extremely well versed in Church History, in the Sacred Canons, and in the Interests of all the Princes in the World: He is a great Historian, as well as a good Politician: He has read a great deal, and remembers every thing, having a most happy Memory.

Some Years ago, seeing himself out of favour with his most Christian Majesty upon several accounts, as particularly for having occasion'd the Rupture between that Crown, and *Innocent* the XI, and for having ingaged his Majesty in the under-

undertaking of *Sicily*, from whence the King, by the Persuasion of *Louvois*, this Cardinal's Enemy, withdrew his Troops under the known pretext of the Troubles in *England*, at the time when they might have conquered that Kingdom without stroke of Sword, and made several other Progresses afterwards. The Cardinal upon this went in all haste to *France*, to make that Monarch sensible of the Error he had committed, proposing to him anew the same Undertaking, and likewise an Attempt on *Naples*, but all in vain. It was he that proposed, treated, and concluded the Marriage of the *Dauphin* with the Elector of *Bavaria's* Sister. He farther put the King of *France* in hopes of making greater Progresses in *Italy*, gaining over to his Interest many Princes with the Decoy of their own Advantages. He projected, and prest the Marriage of the Duke of *Savoy* with the deceased *Infanta* of *Portugal*, by the Mediation of that Queen the late Dutchess of *Aumale* his Kinswoman, but it did not take effect, because of the known Jealousies of State in the Court of *Turin*.

He secured the Duke of *Parma* to the *French* Interest, offering to lend him Money for redeeming from the Pope's Treasury, *Castro* and *Ronciglione*, and to procure the Treaty of *Pisa* to be strictly observed. He made the Duke of *Modena* believe, that they wou'd not only restore to him *Comacchio*, but likewise enrich him with a plentiful Dowry in *France*, offering him preferably to others one of the King of *France's* Daughters. He profer'd to the Prince of *Bozzolo* ready Mony, if he would make over his Right to the Investiture of *Sabioneta*. The same thing he offered to the Prince of *Guaftalla*, and to several other Feudatarys of the Empire in *Lombardy*, and especial-

ly to those living in the Territory call'd *Le Langhe*. And at last, with the Duke of *Mantoua* alone, he contracted the Ruine and Disquiet of *Italy*, for some few Thousands of Pistols, that Prince receiving a *French* Garrison into *Casal*. This Cardinal lives at present at the Court of *France* in great esteem, being in favour with his most Christian Majesty. In *Rome* he is esteem'd, altho' absent, but no ways belov'd; he having occasion'd great Disturbances in it, in the time that the Duke *D'Estrees* his Brother was Ambassador at this Court, all the Care of the Embassy lying wholly upon the Cardinal.

He has great Experince in State Affairs, which he made appear in his great Negotiations in *Italy*, in *France*, in *Germany*, and in *Portugal*. He was first Bishop of *Lyons*, which he obtained leave to renounce in favour of his Nephew. He is a Man of a great Soul, has a free easie way with him, and is very friendly; but on the contrary, he is a great Persecutor of those that are not his well-wishers, as the deceas'd Cardinal *Altieri* found by Experience; against whom, even when he was the favourite Nephew of the Pope, he concerted the so much renowned League of the four Ambassadors of the Crowns, altho' at that time, *France* was in War with the House of *Austria*. This instance, as it is without a Parallel, so it brought the Hatred of the Crown of *France* on the Family of *Altieri*, which could never be restored into favour with his most Christian Majesty, till the deceas'd Cardinal *Altieri* throwing himself into Cardinal *D'Estrees* Arms, was by his means reconciled to his Majesty, it having been of no avail to him to have sent the Prince *Don Angelo* his Brother, under the pretext of travelling to see the World, to throw himself at his

his most Christian Majesty's Feet, he not having had so much as the good luck to be able to speak to the King. After this Reconciliation, Cardinal *D'Estrees* procured the *exclusive* to be taken off, which, by his means, his most Christian Majesty had given not only against Cardinal *Altieri* himself, but likewise against all his Creatures.

It is with reason then, that he is admired by every one that knows him, and especially by those who are Dependents of *France*, and he is no less feared by his Rivals, and his Enemies. Altho' he is a Clergyman of an exemplary Life, yet I pray God to deliver every one from his Machinations, they being all of fire, and procuring Destruction and Desolation. It is his misfortune to be reputed too passionate, hasty, rash, and unquiet; because these Defects do not a little stain the brightness of his great Virtues, both Physical and Natural, with which he is plentifully endowed. Hence it was, that he being an Enemy to his own Ease, and the Quiet of others, made himself the chief Author, together with Cardinal *Chigi*, of the Imprisonment, and afterwards, of the Condemnation of the infamous *Molinos*, Founder of the Quietists; but of this he had reason afterwards to glory, to the confusion of the great Protectors of *Molinos*, and particularly of the Queen of *Sweden*, and Cardinal *Azzolini*. *Fiat jus, & pereat Orbis.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Francis Maidalchini.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Viterbo* the 26th of *November*, 1631, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the Xth, the 7th of *October*, 1647.

This Cardinal had been by this time Subdean of the Sacred College, if *Innocent* the XIth had not prudently stopt him from passing to the Order of Cardinal-Priests, even altho' he was first Cardinal Deacon. His Holiness was afraid, that if this Cardinal had then pass'd to the Order of Priests, he might in a short time, have come to be not only the first Cardinal Priest, but even the first Cardinal Bishop, and consequently Dean of the Sacred College; which high Dignity would have been rendred contemptible, by being in the Hands of a Person of mean Parts, that was in little or no esteem; but on the contrary, despicable in the Eyes of all the World. He must therefore have always continued in the Order of Cardinal Deacons, if *Alexander* the VIIIth had not removed him into the Order of Cardinal Priests, but with exprefs Prohibition, in a particular Brief, that he should not pass any higher into the Order of Cardinal Bishops.

I think

I think it altogether superfluous to relate here the Life and Deeds of this Hero, he being but too well known to the World by the bad Fame he has in it. *Notus ex magna, sed ex mala fama.* To this purpose it will be sufficient, to tell, only what his Brother the deceased Marquis of *Maidalchini* said of him; that the Purple was to other Families an Ornament of Glory and Honour, whereas it had brought upon his Family a Stain of Infamy and Disgrace. But for my part, I do not discover so much Ignorance and Silliness in this Cardinal, as to render him contemptible in the Eyes of all People. On the contrary, I have admir'd in him some Virtues which are not to be found in others, that bear a greater Character in the World.

He is so much a Friend to his Friends, that to serve them he has sometimes put his own Fortune in danger. In the Disgrace of the Deceased Cardinal *Camillus Astalli* his Confident, he would never break off his Friendship with him, altho' he was in disgrace with the Pope, and altho' his Holiness, and likewise *Donna Olimpia* his Aunt, had strictly enjoyn'd him to have no manner of Commerce with him. Besides, after the Death of *Innocent* the Xth, he with a greatness of Soul, and Generosity without Example, resign'd to the said Cardinal *Astalli* some *Abbeys*, which the Pope had assign'd to him, at the time he promoted him to the Cardinalship. He is moreover a Man of such Secrecy and Fidelity, that for all the Gold of the World, he would not tell the least word of any thing that had been committed to him in Secrecy by any Person whatever; and in matters of Business, he was never found to have asserted a Falshood, nor to have failed the least in his Promises. The bad Reputation he has got in the
World

World, proceeds not so much from what he is at present, as what he was when he came first to *Rome* to enter himself Pensioner in the *Roman Seminary*.

It was during his Residence in this College, that he was promoted to the Cardinal's Dignity, when he was only sixteen Years old; *Donna Olimpia* his Aunt having recommended him to the Pope as the most learned and wisest Youth that was then in the College, and this she got the Jesuits his Masters to attest. So that when *Innocent* the Xth saw him, he confess'd that he had been imposed upon by his crafty Kinswoman; and that when he thought, for his own Glory, that he had promoted to the Cardinalship the wisest, and most understanding Person of the Ecclesiastical State, he found, to his Shame, that he had honoured with that Dignity, the silliest and most ignorant Person of the Court. He had never been before at *Rome*, but always educated at *Viterbo*, amidst the Straits and Difficulties of his poor Family. So that having been raised of a sudden from an extream Poverty to such an eminent Dignity, it is no wonder, if all People conceived a mean Opinion of him upon his first Appearance in this City.

Besides, his deform'd Presence of Body did not a little contribute to discredit him with all that saw him; and he was commonly laugh'd at in all Companies for his country Voice, and his clownish way of talking. He was still the more exposed to Derision, for his being altogether ignorant of the Affairs of *Rome*; and much more of the Affairs of the World; having no manner of Learning, nor being remarkable for any moral Virtue, nay, not having common Prudence enough to keep him from falling into gross Blunders. More-over,

over, *Donna Olimpia* having made him get by heart several sorts of Compliments, as soon as he had got over the first, he was immediately run aground, and was often at a loss what to say farther. In Progress of time, by frequenting the Congregations, and getting some insight into Business, and by the Experience which he acquir'd in many parts of the World, and in several Courts which he had frequented, he has not only rubb'd off all his Clownishness, but has even polish'd and refin'd himself to a reasonable degree: So that were he now to make his first Appearance at *Rome*, he would not be thought so weak a Man as he passes for at present, and perhaps there might be found some in the Sacred College that are inferiour to him.

He is courteous, and ready to do service, prodigal indeed rather than liberal; he is affable, affectionate, charitable, chearful and pleasant. He is very effeminate, and spends more of his time in conversation with the Ladies, than in Prayer, and Acts of Devotion.

After the Death of *Innocent* the Xth, he immediately list'd himself a Factionary of *Spain*, at the Request of his Friend the deceas'd Cardinal *Camillus Astalli*. But after that this Cardinal died, of the Poison that was given him in his own Palace of the Bishoprick of *Catania* in *Sicily*, seeing himself to be but in little credit with his own Faction, and having found the frequent Protestations he made to the Spanish Ambassadour *D. Lewis Pons de Lion* to be altogether ineffectual, he at last set up over the Gate of his Palace the Arms of his most Christian Majesty, and took down those of *Spain*; declaring himself all of a sudden a Factionary

tionary of *France*; from which Crown he receives greater Profit than Applause. If the Conclave were to be held by the Antipodes, *Maidalchini* might hope to be made Pope, that he might govern cross-wise, and turn the World upside down. However, we may say of him with *St. Austin*, *Quanto grandior, tanto varior*.

He died of a Stoppage of Urin at *Nettuno*, whither he had gone to pass some part of the Summer. His Corps was carry'd back to *Rome*, the 13th of *June*, 1700; and was transported to *St. Martins* in the Diocess of *Viterbo*, and there interr'd in the Chapel belonging to his Ancestors.

T H E
L I F E
O F
Charles Barberini.
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome*, the first of *June*, 1630. and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the Xth, the 23d of *June*, 1653. and is now the second in the Order of Cardinal Priests.

This Cardinal is a Man of a low Stature, but of great Sincerity, and faithful to the highest degree. He is a Gentleman of an honest Heart, of a good Life, and an unspotted Conscience; he is pious, humble and devout, charitable and just. He is frugal in the Expences of his Family, but keeps a good Court, and lives handsomely; and when occasion requires, he treats nobly like a Prince.

His unhappy Presence of Body, together with the defect of his shortness of Sight, and his Antick Dress, besides his own natural Insufficiency, and his insufferable Flegm in Business, hinder him from having that Veneration that is due to him in all respects; he having concentrated in him all the Merits of *Urban* the VIIIth, and of the deceas'd Cardinals, *Francis* and *Anthony Barberini* his Uncles. He is belov'd and esteem'd equally both in the Court and City of *Rome*, as much as any
Head

Head of a Faction whatever. He is in such esteem with Cardinal *Pamfilio*, that he will make him forget the Persecution that his Uncle met with from that Family on the head of his Exaltation, altho' contrary to the Advice of our Saviour, *Noli credere inimico reconciliato.*

Altho' this Cardinal has no quarrel of his own with any body, yet he makes some difference between those that are Friends, and have receiv'd Favours from his Family, and those that have shew'd themselves to be no great well-wishers to it. He is nevertheless a Man of so much Moderation, that he will hardly fly into any great Passion on that account. He is studious and well skill'd in Church Matters, and in the several interests of Princes; but he is a Man of no great Comprehension, speaks but little, and is always reading, and meditates well on what he reads. He writes a great deal, and marks down every thing, but with great Partiality; and altho' he is not happy in his Expression, yet he is very prolix, and has no great Force in persuading.

The deceased Cardinal *Barberini* his Uncle resigned, in his Favour, the Archpriesthood of *St. Peter's Church*, with several Abbeys and Pensions, which in all amount to thirty Thousand *Roman Crowns* a year. He enjoys the Office of *Prefect of Rome*, which will end in his Person, to prevent the renewing of those ancient Disturbances, which were raised on the account of the Pretensions to the command and precedence that was so much controverted. After that these Honours were given by *Innocent* the Xth to the House of *Barberini*, they being reconciled by the Marriage of the late Prince of *Palestrine*, Brother to this Cardinal, with the Niece of *Donna Olimpia* of the Family of *Giustiniani*, this Cardinal

was

was promoted to the Purple Dignity. So that that great Pope, by having placed his most restless Kinswoman, with all these Honours, in the House of *Barberini*, did it more harm than good. He having come to be first Cardinal Priest, would not pass over into the Order of the Bishops, in which case he would now have been Subdean, but *Maidalchini* coming over into the Order of Priests, this Cardinal was forc'd to give way, and so by this means is now second in the Order of Cardinal Priests.

This most worthy Prince has always led an exemplary Life, being averse to all manner of Quarrels, and never giving disgust to any mortal. He appears to be indifferent with all the Factions, altho' much more partial to *France* than any other Nation. He has reason therefore to depend on the Protection of that Crown, more than of any other Nation that favours him; altho' he flatters himself, that all the other Crowns will concur to his Exaltation, because of the great Sweetness of his Temper. Nevertheless, in his Legateship of *Urbino*, which he administered with great Rigour, contrary to his natural mild Temper, he let the World see, that his good Intentions were overpower'd by the Cruelty and Authority of those by whom he let himself be govern'd; he feigning himself to be sickly and indispos'd, that he may meet with the less Opposition in his Pretensions to the Papacy.

He married his Niece in *Milan*, to *Don Carlo Borromeo*, that he might thereby gain over to his Interest *Don Livio Odescalchi*. The *Spaniards* will always oppose him, as likewise the Illustrious House of *Toscany*, for many Reasons that are well known. He has however got himself to be recommended to his Catholick

D

Majesty

Majesty by the Emperor, at the Request of the Dutcheſs of *Modena* his Niece, and he ſeeks to get into Favour with his Royal Highneſs of *Tofcany*, by the Mediation of *Signor Antonio Maria Fedi*, the great Duke's Agent. This Cardinal's Reputation in the World, is neither bad, nor very great; he is not capable of doing mighty things againſt his Enemies, becauſe he is not of a revengeful Temper; neither is he able to do great matters for his Friends, becauſe he wants Activity. However, we may juſtly apply to him *Pliny's* Deſcription, *Apes non ſatis diebus peragunt opus, ſed quoties Cali commoditas incitat.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

John Delphino,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Venice*, the 23d of *April*, 1627, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VII.* the 7th of *March*, 1667.

This Cardinal being so much decay'd as to have lost intirely the use of his Legs, began to think of nothing else but of rendring up his Soul to God, and bidding adieu to the great Fame he always had in the World, of being thought the greatest Politician in the sacred College. He was learned to a high degree in all the Classick Authors, was a good Poet, as appears from his Tragedies, which are so much applauded; and he was yet a better Orator, a most learned Historian, and was very well vers'd in the Greek Tongue. He was perfectly well instructed in all the Maxims of Princes, and had a thorough knowledge of the Customs and Interests of all the Countries in the World. This Cardinal has been intrusted with the Secret of the House of *Chigi* in all the Conclaves, in which he has always had a great share,

having had the Glory of creating several Popes. He has a great Experience in Business, and a vast Ability in transacting it.

He is courteous, well-bred, and of a free easie Carriage; of a deep Thought, and competently Generous; zealous of Justice, and a cordial Friend; but he has been likewise revengeful, and in his time has been the occasion of shedding Blood. He has been a Lover of Pleasure, and effeminate, but a most accomplish'd Gentleman. He was made by his own Republick, when he was but five and twenty years old, one of the *Savii di Terra ferma*, and at the Age of three and thirty he was made a Senator. He being most partially inclin'd to the Interest of France, refus'd to accept of the Embassy to that Crown, that he might not involve himself in Matters that were at that time ticklish. In the Year 1656, he was chosen by *Monsignor Girolamo Gradenigo* Patriarch of *Aquileia* his Uncle, for his Coadjutor; and upon this Motive put himself into Priest's Orders, and in a short time, by the Death of his Uncle, he came to be Patriarch of *Aquileia*.

It was he that assisted Cardinal *Caraffa*, at that time Nuncio to the Republick of *Venice*, to re-establish the Jesuites in that City; for which he was dignify'd with the Purple by *Alexander VII.* in his last Promotion of Cardinals at the Recommendation of the Princes. He was a Man of infinitely greater Merit than what his mean Appearance promised. He feign'd himself to be altogether unfit for Business, whereas, like to the Fire, he was all Activity and Motion; and he alone did more Business in his Sleep, than many others do when they are awake.

In the last Conclave he was very near being Pope, having found means to unite in his Interest all the Crowns, and all the Heads of the Factions; which did so confound all the other Cardinals, that they try'd all means to exclude him, in which they succeeded at last, but not without a great deal of Pains. If he had been exalted to the Papal Throne, he had banish'd all sorts of Scruples, and given free leave to read *Bodinus*, and study the Works of *Machiavel*. In which case we might have cry'd out with *Firmianus*, *Seu vendita, seu expulsa Justitia, & veritatem secum trahens, reliquit hominibus errorem.*

THE
LIFE
OF

Peter Bonfi,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Florence* the 4th of *April*, 1630. and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth. the 22d of *February*, 1672.

This Cardinal is a remarkable Instance of the great Force and Power of Fortune. His Father, because of the great Debts he had contracted, was forc'd to leave *Toscany*, and went to live at *Mantoua*, where he was imploy'd as Resident from the Court of *France*. The Son, in company with his Mother, went to *Mantoua* to meet his Father, with whom he soon after went to *Biliers* in *Languedoc*, the Bishop of which place was his Uncle, who had formerly been a domestic Servant of the Queen-Mother of *France*, *Mary of Medicis*. After his Father's Death, the Creditors seiz'd upon all the Personal and Real Estate he had in *Florence*; but the Son did afterwards recover out of his Paternal Estate, all those Lands and Tenements which he enjoys at present in *Italy*, and to which his eldest Sister will succeed

ceed as Heiress, who is Widow to the Count of *Castres*, the eldest Baron in the Province of *Languedoc*. *Bonsi*, by his great Wit, having got into favour with the deceas'd Cardinal *Mazarin*, when he went into *France*, the Cardinal gave him, in his time, the Coadjutorship of the Church of *Biliers*, to which he soon afterward succeeded as Bishop, by the Death of his Uncle. After this he was made Archbishop of *Toulouse*, and then of *Narbonne*; so that he had at least fifty Thousand *Roman Crowns* a year in Church Benefices.

He was sent by his most Christian Majesty, Ambassador to the Republick of *Venice*, and afterwards to *Poland*, and last of all to *Spain*; in all which places he gave great Proofs of his Sagacity, and Dexterity; of his great Parts, Learning and Application; in so much, that he has always had good Success in all the Negotiations he has undertaken, as particularly in the Marriage between our Sovereign the great Duke of *Toscany*, and the great Dutcheß. *Michael King* of *Poland* gave him the Nomination from that Crown to the Cardinalship, which, after that King's Death, was confirmed to him by his Successor King *John* the III^d, because of his having greatly contributed to his Elevation to the Throne. For it was he that thwarted all the Projects that were carrying on, in favour of the Duke of *Lorraine*, by the Pope's Nuncio to that Court, the present Cardinal *Marescotti*; with whom he had many and many a time hard words about this matter, and it cost him no small pains to defeat the Nuncio's Designs.

He was at last made a Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth, by way of Supplement to the Promotion of Cardinals for the Crowns made by *Clement*

the IXth, in which he promoted only *Bouillon* for *France*, and *Portocarrero* for *Spain*. But the Printer of the Pictures of the new promoted Cardinals, having, thro' inadvertency, written under *Bonfi's* Picture, that he was a *Frenchman*, the *Spanish* Ambassador immediately demanded, that a Subject of *Spain* might be created a Cardinal at the same time. So that the deceased Cardinal *Altieri* was forc'd to buy up, at a dear rate, the first Impression of the Picture; and in the second Impression he having been denominated a *Florentin*, the good Jesuite *Monsignor Nitardo*, Archbishop of *Edeffa*, his Catholick Majesty's Ambassador, was then prevail'd with to shut his Eyes, and not to make any farther Opposition in that matter, as he ought to have done, to prevent any Prejudice from being done to that Mock-equality between the two Nations, in this kind of promotion of Cardinals for the Crowns: And the Ambassador, that he might wink at this matter, was promised a Cardinal's Cap for himself, on the account of the Crown of *Spain*, which he afterwards got. He was always in great Favour with the last Queen of *France*, who, if she had been able, would have raised him to the same pitch of Grandeur, as she did *Mazarin*, and *Richelieu*.

He is prudent, politick, and discreet, cunning, chearful, and of a free easie Carriage, but very thoughtful. He has a Mixture both of the *French* and *Spanish* Humour, being free and lively in Conversation, but still grave, and majestic in the Carriage of his Body. He has lived merrily for the time past, and was a great deal more eloquent in an Assembly of Ladies, than in the Pulpit. But at present, he is in a very bad State of Health, having been roughly
treated

treated by several Fits of an Apoplexy. He continues to take the Remedies that are proper for the Recovery of the Health of his Body; and at the same time, is diligent in using the Means necessary for the saving of his Soul; that as his Life has been great and glorious here upon Earth, he may not fail, after his Death, to triumph in Glory to all Eternity in another World. We may therefore say in his Favour with *Seneca, Magnum, & summum, Deoque vicinum concuti.*

THE

THE
LIFE
OF

Vincent Mary Orsini,

A Dominican Fryar and Cardinal Priest. †

HE was born in *Gravina*, the second of February, 1650, and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth, the 22d of February, 1672.

He was already Duke of *Gravina*, when going to travel over *Italy*, he put on unexpectedly at *Venice* the Habit of *St. Dominick*, having first renounc'd all his Estate in favour of the present Duke his Brother; by whose Marriage afterwards, contracted with *Donna Lodovica*, Niece to the deceas'd Cardinal *Altieri*, and by consequence adopted Niece to *Clement* the Xth, he was promoted to the Purple, during the time he staid at *Bolonia*. But he constantly refused this Honour,

† He is now one of the Cardinal Bishops, having been removed into that Order, upon the Death of Cardinal *Cybo*.

Honour, neither would he by any means accept of it, till he was enjoined to it under the Precept of Holy Obedience by Father *Rocaberti*, at that time General of the Order in the *Spanish Dominions*; who went on purpose from *Rome* to *Bolonia* on that account, carrying with him an exhortatory Brief from the Pope.

He was afterwards made Prefect of the Congregation appointed to interpret the Canons of the Council of *Trent*, which is for that reason call'd the *Congregation of the Council*. He would needs have a Dispensation, to enable him to say Mass before the time, as likewise afterwards to be consecrated Bishop before he was of Age for it, he out of his holy Zeal abandoning the Court of *Rome*, and renouncing the said Prefectship, to confine himself to the Archbishoprick of *Manfredonia*. There he built from the Foundations the Metropolitan Church, as also the Palace, and the Court of the Archbishop, with a Steeple standing by it self, after the manner of that in *Venice*, which stands before the Church of *St. Mark*. He adorn'd likewise the Metropolitan Church with many Pictures, and with plaister work, enriching it with many fine Ornaments, and at last, he sold his own Silver Plate to make a sumptuous Service for the great Altar of the said Church.

But to comply with the Sollicitations of Cardinal *Altieri*, who was not pleased to see him Bishop in the Kingdom *Naples*, because he was afraid lest he should either make himself a Partisan of *Spain*, if he would keep fair with that Monarch, or perhaps ruine his own House, by the Engagements he was entring into with them for the Defence of the Ecclesiastical Immunities, he renounced the Church of *Manfredonia*, and took

took that of *Cesena* in *Romagna*, where he likewise undertook great Buildings, and Imbellishments of Churches. The Effect which that Air had on his Health, together with the querulous and petulant Humours of that People made him soon return to the Kingdom of *Naples*; pretending as an Excuse that he was to assist at the Profession of the Dutcheſs his Mother, who leaving this World, retir'd into a Convent which ſhe had built in *Gravina*.

He is learn'd in ſpeculative Matters, and particularly in the School Divinity. He is very well verſ'd in the Sacred Canons, in the Councils, and in Church Hiſtory: He has printed ſome Books, and particularly the famous *Synod of Siponto*, for the Reform of his Clergy; on which he has been always very intent, as alſo on the great Care of his Flock, not only in the two fore-mention'd Churches, but likewise in that of *Benevento*, of which he was afterwards made Archbiſhop, and where the famous Miracle of *St. Philip Neri* hapned to this Cardinal in the Year 1685, he coming out of the Ruines of that dreadful Earthquake without any hurt. He has always continued to lead a Monkiſh Life, eating with all his Court in the Reſectory, and imitating the ſame rigid way which *St. Charles Borromeo* practis'd, living a moſt innocent Life, and preaching frequently in his Cathedral.

However, he is reckon'd to be very unquiet, and exceſſively headſtrong; independent on others, and wholly addicted to his own Opinion; apt to engage himſelf in Broils, and moſt obſtinate in maintaining them. He is of a Genius much inferior to his great Birth; but he is chaſt, ſober, humble, and cordial; genteel, ſerviceable, charitable and generous; but too humourſome
and

and austere. He is totally averse to all manner of Pride and Haughtiness, giving himself up wholly to the Service of God; for the promoting of which, he will bestir himself vigorously in every Conclave at which he is present, and on all other Occasions that offer. If he should ever, with the benefit of Time, come to be Pope, which I look upon to be impossible, he following the Example of the Fryars that are Superiors of their Order, who are indiscreet in their Government, would have rather the Zeal of *Elias* than the Meekness of *Elishah*; and would occasion, by his Rigour, many of the Monks to go in Pilgrimage to *Geneva*, notwithstanding the great Liking he has to dirty Toes, and to Cows; verifying perhaps the Saying of *Plato*, *Qui nihil propemodum scimus, arbitramur omnia scire*.

THE
LIFE

OF

Francis Nerli,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in the City of *Florence* the 13th of *July* 1636, and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth, the 12th of *June* 1673.

This Cardinal is of a most godly and holy Life, and of an unspotted Conscience, but on the other hand, he is very rigorous, austere and obstinate; averse to do service to any one, and ready to give disgust. He is troubled with the Spleen to a high degree, dwells in his melancholly, without ever taking any manner of Pastime; sometimes he takes delight in defending his own capricious Humour; and can never be put off from what he has once resolv'd on. He is covetous in spending any thing upon himself, and yet prodigal in several Expences, which can be of no manner of use to him. He is something of a Philosopher, a great Friend to study, and very well vers'd in many Sciences, his Vote being much esteem'd in all the Congregations. He has no great faculty in negotiating Affairs; the Projects

jects which he lays down being for the most part not very practicable, yet nevertheless in the space of a few Years he has possess'd the first Employments of the holy Apostolick See.

In the time of Clement the Xth he was first sent Nuncio to *Poland*, then to *Germany*, and afterwards to *France*, in all which Posts he shew'd his Capacity to be but indifferent, never having been able to bring any Business to perfection. He was likewise afterwards made Secretary of State, and at last promoted to the Cardinalship by that Pope; who altho' he had no great Inclination of himself to advance him to the Purple, yet yielded to the pressing Solicitations made in his Favour by Cardinal *Altieri*, who being mindful of the Money lent him at several times by *Philip Nerli* this Cardinal's Brother, requited him in this manner, that he might shew his Gratitude. He procur'd the Archbishoprick of *Florence* to be renounced in his Favour, where he met with several disgusts, because of his rough ways, which were not very grateful to his Country, and much less to the House of *Medici*.

The peevish and whimsical Humour of this Cardinal grew to such a pitch that the great Duke being nauseated at it, as likewise the People, following their Sovereign's Footsteps, they began to cross him; so that he was necessitated, if he would enjoy Peace and Quiet, to leave that Bishoprick, and to confine himself for some few Years with a design to feed his natural Melancholly, to *Assisi*; a Place very fit for his Distemper, there employing himself in the Pastoral Care of that Church.

Most People know this Cardinal, besides his being Pious, Just, and of an Angelical Life, to be likewise generous and grateful in Works of Piety,

Piety, as he shew'd himself to be remarkably such, when despising his own Profit he liberally exercis'd his Gratitude to the Chapter of St. Peter's Church, for his having been once a Canon of it, by causing to be reprinted anew at *Paris*, at his own cost, the Breviary according to the use of that Church; giving two Copies of it to each Canon, Prebend, and Chaplain of the Church, the said Impression having cost him no less than eight thousand Crowns; so that by this generous Action he has acquir'd a great deal of Glory and Praise. And at present, to shew his natural Generosity and Gratitude towards his Friends, even after their Death, he is gathering together all the Sermons of the good Father *Marchesi*, to have them reprinted at his own Charges.

As to his Propension towards the Crowns, he could not be better stated, being look'd upon as indifferent to them all; altho' some People tax him with being a little more inclined to the Crown of *France*, and not altogether favourable to that of *Spain*. However, he has managed himself so dextrously, that he has obtained the consent of that Crown, altho' rather by conjecture than by any positive Act. Nevertheless, neither the one nor the other Crown can lay any great stress upon him, because of his obstinate and contradictory Humour.

He is likewise of an Humour never to be contented, peevish, unquiet, troublesome and changeable. From hence it proceeds, that every Day he changes the Officers of his Court, his Servants, and even his dwelling House; he having had no less than three Houses at one and the same time, and that because of the fickleness of his Humour, which is never to be satisfied. If he should happen to be Pope, which is impossible, because
his

his cross morose Humour is too well known, we might say, *Farewell poor See of St. Peter, for thou shalt now go a wandering, as a Pilgrim, over the several parts of the World.* So that there appearing no ground on which we may establish the Foundation of this Cardinal's greater Fortune, it is not necessary to insist on matters belonging to that Consideration. Wherefore I leave him to apply to himself the Words of the Philosopher, *Quosdam fastidium, sed alios omnium quæ agunt Leta voluntas tenet, magnum vitium est sibi displicere, quod ab intemperie animi oritur, & sibi placere felix est insania.*

THE
LIFE
OF

Girolamo Casanate,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Naples* the 13th of *February*, 1620, and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth, the 12th of *June*, 1673.

He is Son to the famous Spanish Regent, who was sent to be President of the high Collateral Council at *Naples*. There he had this Son, whom he took care to have well educated in his Studies, and then sent him to *Rome* under the Pontificate of *Urban* the VIIIth. In a short time he was made Gentleman of the Bedchamber to his Holiness; and having enter'd himself in Prelature, he began under *Innocent* the Xth to be employed in the Governments of some of the Cities; among which was that of *Camerino*, which proved to be, in a great measure, the occasion of his present Fortune which he so very well deserves. For at the time that he was Governour of *Camerino*, *Monsignor Æmilius Altieri*, who was afterwards Pope, was then Bishop of the Place, and enter'd into an strict intimacy with him, cultivating an hereditary Friendship, which he had formerly contracted with the Regent his Father at *Naples*, at the time he was Nuncio there.

Innocent

Innocent the Xth, having conceived a grudge against *Altieri* for some Reasons that are well known, under a false Pretext of some Claims pretended by the Pope's Treasury, for Debts contracted in the time that *Altieri* was Nuncio at *Naples*, caused an Order to be sent to *Monfignor Casanatta*, to make open sale of all the Goods and Chattels belonging to *Monfignor Altieri*, Bishop of *Camerino*; who, with the Assistance of the Governour, found means to stifle so troublesome a Business the best way he could; and was so greatly satisfied with *Casanatta's* Friendship to him on this Occasion, that he retain'd always a grateful remembrance of it. *Alexander* the VIIth made him Inquisitor of *Malta*, and afterwards Secretary to the Congregation for propagating the Faith. He was by *Clement* the IXth made Assessor to the Inquisition; and *Clement* the Xth named him Secretary of the Bishops and Regular Clergy; and afterwards made him Cardinal.

He is learned to a high degree in all the Sciences, and has so happy a Memory, that he is able to give an account of every thing that he has read. He is courteous, well bred, affable and obliging; he is neither covetous nor liberal, but lives handsomely, without any thing of superfluity. He sets up for being a Man punctual to his Word, but then he is not very ready to engage himself; on the contrary, he is averse to do Service [to] any one; he is somewhat humourfome, captious, rigid and severe, and much given to doubting, and to cavilling. He was tenderly beloved by *Chigi*, because of the Obligation he put upon him, when he offered to serve him as Auditor of the Court of Appeals, in the time of his Uncle's Pontificate. Cardinal *Altieri*, altho'

he consider'd him as his Creature, yet he did not trust him, being jealous of the great Confidence *Clement* the Xth put in him; as also of the Friendship and Esteem which *Innocent* the XIth had for him; or indeed rather, being afraid of his just Counsels, for which *Don Livio Odescalchi* will always befriend him, and do him the small Service he is able with the Creatures of his Uncle.

The *French* have this Cardinal in great Esteem; but at first they were his Enemies, because of his being a Spaniard, as also because of the distrust they had of him in the matter of the Regale, and in the Disputes which the Court of *Rome* had with the Marquis of *Lavardin*. Whoever considers this matter without Passion, cannot but commend extremely the Zeal and Courage which this Cardinal shew'd in maintaining the Dignity of the holy See; of whose Rights he is a most zealous Defender, and is not withheld from doing his Duty in this matter, by any consideration of the Prejudice he does thereby to his own Interest, he chusing generously to abandon all his hopes of greater Preferment, rather than sit tamely, and see the Rights and Privileges of the Church trampled upon. It was his Zeal upon this Occasion, that got him the Applause of all the Cardinals, and the Love of the Court. But to quiet *France*, he made use of the same Stratagem as *Alexander* the VIIIth, appearing always against that Crown, till he was deputed by the Pope, with the approbation of every body, for adjusting the Dispute concerning the Bishops that assisted in the Assembly of the Clergy of *France*, held at *Paris* in the Year 1682. And then, to his own great discredit, and to the admiration of all *Rome*, he concluded very soon that

that Agreement, which has been greatly pernicious, and destructive of the Rights of the holy See. The Jesuits, and his other Enemies, accuse him of maintaining all the Doctrines of the Gallican Church; and for no other reason, but for having, together with *Innocent* the XIIth, got over all the Difficulties concerning the Promotion of those Bishops that had assisted at that scandalous Assembly, or approved of what was decreed in it.

The *Spaniards* have an extreme great Veneration for this Cardinal, but they do not totally confide in him, partly because of his having so much obliged his most Christian Majesty, and likewise for the great Correspondence he still has in *France*, and partly because of the Disgusts that were given to the Regent his Father in *Naples*, at the time that the Count of *Ognatte* was Viceroy; for he not caring to see the Regent assist in the collateral Council, because of his great Integrity and Constancy, sent him, upon a sham Pretext, into *Puglia*, at a time that the change of Air was dangerous, and this so affected his Health, that he died at *Bari* a Martyr to Justice: But notwithstanding all this, he has constantly had the Affection of the *Spanish* Nation, and of all the chief Ministers of that Crown, to which he has upon all Occasions express'd a most cordial and dutiful Submission. He has no Relations of his own Family, which ends in his Person, neither does he seem to retain any great Affection for his other Relations, as particularly the Marquis of *Montagnan*, of the House of *Vespoli*, his only great Grandson, who is Son to a Son of his Sister, and has for his Mother a noble Lady, of the Family of *Gennaro*.

If this Cardinal ever happens to be exalted to the Papacy, it is certain that he will employ *Panciatichi* as his first Minister, and next to him *Marrescotti*, and *Norris*; as likewise *Ferrari*, in matters of Conscience. He is a Friend to some of the Zealots, who will not readily oppose his advancement; but he is a great Enemy to *Colloredo* and to all his Followers; because that in the last Conclave except one, when Cardinal *Chigi*, and some others, were carrying on the Project of *Casanatta's* Exaltation to the Throne, upon express condition that *Panciatichi* should be employ'd as first Minister; *Colloredo* went and discover'd this secret Treaty to such of the Cardinal Zealots as were against *Casanatta's* Election, who having got this handle, entirely ruin'd the Project that was set on foot in his Favour. Cardinal *Chigi* conceiv'd such a hatred against *Colloredo* upon this account, that he would not so much as see him on his Death-Bed; when he, as being great Penitentiary, went to his Palace at the holy Apostles, and desired to be admitted into Cardinal *Chigi's* Bed-Chamber, that he might give him the Pope's Blessing.

He will meet with no Opposition from the House of *Altieri*, as being their Creature, and Cardinal *Paluzzo* who was distrustful of him, because of his ingratitude to him, being dead. But *Carpegna* will declare himself openly his Enemy. The Cardinals of the Pignatellian Faction will favour him, because of his being so great a Friend of their Creator's. In fine, in my Opinion, there is no body stands fairer for the Papacy than this Cardinal, in case of any Divisions in the next Conclave, which cannot well be avoided, and will necessarily oblige the Cardinals to agree to the

the choice of some Person that is not odious to any of the Parties.

He is sharp in his Words, quick in his Answers, wise in his Counsels, and circumspect in his Actions. He has a great Capacity for Business, and is very successful in persuading. But there is nothing makes him more worthy of our Admiration, or more deserving of the Triple Crown, than his innocent and exemplary Life, which he has always led from his Youth, and even in Conversations that were none of the most austere. But I wish that this his great Virtue may not prove an Obstacle to his Advancement, now in a time that the Age is so corrupted, that most People wish to live under a licentious Government, that they may meet with no manner of restraint in their sensual Pleasures. It is certain, that we may without any manner of hesitation, apply to him the Words of *Plato*, *Nunquam secundis rebus intumuit, neque varietate officiorum continuam Laudem humanitatis infregit.*

He died at *Rome* the 2d of *March*, 1700, and on the 4th of the said Month his Funeral was celebrated in the Church of the *Minerva*, where his Body was interr'd; and to which Convent he left his famous Library, for the use of all Persons that are studiously inclin'd.



THE
L I F E
O F

Galeazzo Marefcotti,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* the Tenth of *Octob.* 1637, and was made Cardinal by *Clement* the Xth the 27th of *May* 1675.

This Cardinal, besides his innumerable Personal Merits, has acquired great Credit by the plentiful Estate which the deceased Count *Francis*, his eldest Brother, who was afterwards made Marquis, inherited of the Old *Bartholomy Ruspoli*, which, with the Addition of the Succession of *Capizucchi*, that fell to Count *Alexander* his younger Brother, and the Original Riches belonging to the Family, has made the House of *Marefcotti* one of the richest Families in *Rome*, and perhaps of all *Italy*, in the Rank of private Gentlemen, which Quality may be of great Assistance to him in attaining to the Triple Crown, which he so well deserves.

He was sent by *Alexander* the VIIth to be Inquisitor of *Malta*, then to be Nuncio in *Poland* by *Clement* the IXth, and afterwards by *Clement* the Xth Nuncio to the Court of *Spain*, in all which Places he shew'd a great Application to the Service

vice of the Holy See. He is indefatigable in Business, anxious to begin it, and slow in finishing it. He was for these his good Qualities, and his great Services to the Church, justly promoted to the Purple by *Clement* the Xth, who likewise named him Legate of *Ferrara*, and afterwards *Innocent* the XIth made him Bishop of *Tivoli*, after the Death of Cardinal *Altieri*, where by his Zeal and Piety he acquir'd the Fame of a good and holy Pastor.

It was believ'd that in the City of *Tivoli*, and in this Cardinal's House, by the Reconciliation of Cardinal *Chigi* with Cardinal *Altieri*, procur'd by the Mediation of the Wise and Generous Count *Alexander Capizucchi*, Brother to *Marescotti*, and a Confident of both the other Cardinals, it was agreed to raise to the Papacy either Cardinal *Marescotti*, or Cardinal *Carpegna*, in the future Vacancy, which happened in the Year 1681. And this was the Occasion of the unexpected Promotion of *Odescalchi*, by the Means of the deceased Cardinal *Ludovisi*, Dean of the Sacred College. For this Cardinal went to the Pope to awake him out of his Drowsiness, telling him that while he was sleeping at his Ease in *Rome*, the Cardinals were busie watching for their own Interests, *Chigi* and *Altieri* being reconciled at *Tivoli*, and having taken an Oath to use all their Endeavours in the next Conclave to advance to the Papacy one of the two fore-mentioned Cardinals.

It is certain that *Marescotti*, by his Creatures and Adherents, as well as by the Zealots, and by several Cardinals of all the other Factions, will be cry'd up as much as any other Competitor whatever. And it is very probable that he will be supported by both the *Austrian* Factions, for the Services he did those Crowns in his two Nunciatures,

tures, and especially that in *Poland*, where, by his too great Zeal in executing the Pope's Orders, for promoting the Pretensions of the late Duke of *Lorraine* to the Throne of that Kingdom then vacant, he fell out heavily with the Ambassador of *France* to that Crown, the present Cardinal *Bonfi*, with whom he reconciled himself in the Conclave of *Alexander* the VIIIth.

I do not know whether this may not be of Prejudice to him with the *French* Faction, and the rather, because he was one of those fix promoted by *Clement* the Xth, whom his most Christian Majesty would never suffer his Ambassador to visit, or acknowledge for Cardinals, during that Pope's Pontificat. I know very well that a little while after his Promotion, the Duke of *Chaunes* being come hither Ambassador from the Court of *France*, he, with reiterated Protestations, excluded *Marescotti* from being Secretary of State to *Clement* the Xth. The greatest Objection that *France* will have against this Cardinal will be, because of the Letters he wrote when he was Nuncio in *Poland*, during the Vacancy of *Clement* the IXth, and which were read one Morning in the Conclave, when it happen'd that two *French* Cardinals were Heads of the Orders, and wherein he discover'd his Genius to be contrary to the Crown of *France*. But Cardinal *Bouillon*, and others his Friends, have since endeavour'd to reconcile him with his most Christian Majesty, excusing him, that he was bound to execute the Orders which the Pope his Master had laid upon him.

Cardinal *de Medicis*, with the Great Duke of *Tuscany* his Brother, gave occasion to question their favourable Inclinations to this Cardinal, by the earnest Recommendations they made in favour of the Marchioness of *Ruspoli*, in the spiteful
Law.

Law-suit she had with the Family of *Marescotti*. And it was thought that this proceeded out of Revenge of the little Inclination shew'd by Cardinal *Marescotti* to favour any of the Concerns of the House of *Medici* that came before the Congregations; but in effect they espous'd the Interest of that Lady purely to please Cardinal *Bichi*, who being a declar'd Enemy to *Marescotti*, will always traverse his farther Advancement.

The Family of *Barberini* will likewise be against him, they having two Years ago engaged themselves in favour of the Marquis *Serlupi*, their Relation, in the known Difference he had with Count *Alexander*, this Cardinal's Brother. The Duke of *Modena* having interested himself in this Quarrel, as being a Relation of *Serlupi*'s, we might have Reason to doubt, whether he had not procur'd the Emperor to declare against the Election of this Cardinal, if we did not know that the Peace had been made up betwixt them, and the Cardinal restor'd into favour with the Duke as formerly. The Cardinals *Carpegna* and *Nerli* will oppose him all they can; the first, because of his Antipathy of Genius to the other; and the second, because of the Rigour *Marescotti* shew'd against the Marquis of *Nerli* his Brother, when he went away Bankrupt in the last Vacancy of the Holy See. There would be no less Suspicion from Cardinal *Pamfilio*, because in the Time of *Innocent* the Xth, by means of *Don Camillo*, his Father, *Marescotti* was tied to the Rope, in order to have the Strapado given him in Carnival Time, but he was set at Liberty by the Intercession of Prince *Giustiniani*, altho' he was first obliged to unmask, were it not that, by the Mediation of the House of *Chigi*, this Matter was adjusted, by the fore-mentioned Compensation, when *Clement* the Xth was

was exalted to the Throne, which was nevertheless condemned by Pope *Pamfilio*, and yet it was agreed on by the Intercession of Cardinal *Chigi*, that they should generously on both sides forget all past Injuries, and begin on a new Score.

If this Obstacle from *France* were taken away, there is no doubt but this most worthy Cardinal would be extoll'd by the universal Applause as one of the most fit, not to say the fittest, of all the Cardinals to be *St. Peter's* Successor. In all the Offices he has enjoy'd he has given Proof of his Learning, of his great Capacity, and of his fitness to negotiate Business of the greatest Moment. He is full of Expedients, ready in finding Remedies, and vigorous in the Defence of the Ecclesiastical Immunities, and of the Rights of the Holy See. He is never cast down by any Misfortune whatever, he is tender-hearted, all Zeal, and such a Lover of Justice, that some People, who are not well acquainted with his natural Temper, suspect him as too severe, and not very civil; he has nothing in his View but the promoting the Service of God, and the Advantage of the Church. He is constantly busied in the Affairs of the chief Congregations, and in serving his Friends, and those that are his well-wishers, being always ready to do Service, a true Friend, and of an exemplary Life.

These his remarkable Qualities have been, by the Envy and Malice of others, shaded with the Blemish of a Frugality not becoming his Dignity; but whoever understands this Court aright cannot but observe, that in the Sacred College there is none who shews greater Magnificence in his publick Appearance than this Cardinal, having the best Liveries and Coaches, besides a noble and numerous Train of Attendants. However, this does

not

not make him the most generous Man alive, for he does not lavish away his Money, but lays it out discreetly upon what is convenient for him. He has no Bounds in his Alms, which he distributes plentifully, and especially to Persons that are in great Want.

He is exemplary, courteous, modest, expeditious, and cordial, of few Words, and of fewer Ceremonies, but of great Piety and Devotion. He is an Enemy to Quarrels, but obstinate in maintaining them when he is once engaged, and he is most vigorous in the Defence of the Pope's Authority. The greatest Exception I find against him is, his being too hard to be persuaded, or rather indeed too headstrong, and of too great Applause in a time when the Cardinals would wish to have a new Pope that is unfit for Business, and easie to be managed; but whatever there is in that, we may say of him with *Salust*, *Quo minus gloriae petebat, eo magis illam adequabatur.*

THE
L I F E
O F
Fabritius Spada,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome*, the 18th of *March*, 1643, and was made Cardinal by *Clement X.* the 27th of *May*, 1675.

He is Nephew to the great Cardinal *Bernardin Spada*, who notwithstanding his Ordinary Condition (he being of *Buistebella*) has found means to plant his Family in several chief Cities of *Italy*, enriching every one of the Branches with a plentiful Estate, and with noble *Alliances*. The *French* put great Confidence in this Cardinal, as well as in his Uncle, he having acquitted himself in his Nunciature at that Court to their great Satisfaction. He is not for all that mistrusted by the *Spaniards*, he being incapable of giving Disgust to any of the Crowns, because of his Indifferency with them all. The *Germans* however conceiv'd some Jealousie of him, because they could not, by his Mediation, obtain the Satisfaction they pretended

pretended from the present Pope, * in some of their Differences with this Court, and because he was not able to quench the Flame of Discord between his Holiness and them. But this happen'd, partly from the Extravagancy of their unjust Demands, and partly from the contrary Genius of the Pope, whom he was oblig'd punctually to obey in his Office of Secretary of State. And in the Character of first Minister, during these nine Years past that he has been in the Apostolick Palace, to the great Satisfaction of every body, quite contrary to almost all the other Ministers of the Popes, who have in that Post rais'd to themselves many Enemies, this Cardinal has increas'd in Favour with all Persons, and has made himself many Friends; he having given Disgust to no body, nor fail'd in any Point of his Duty; and would to God, that his Holiness had always confided in him; for then he would not have been liable to be impos'd upon by others.

This Cardinal is of an excellent Temper, and of an unspotted Conscience; as are likewise his six Brothers, all of them worthy Gentlemen. He is very learned in all the Sciences, and especially in Law, in Divinity, in the Controversies, in Morality, and in Church History. He is well vers'd in the Councils, and in the several Interests of Princes; so that with great Reason his Vote is highly esteem'd in all the Congregations. He is genteel, witty, and generous; pious, devout, charitable, and kind; but not very efficacious, because of his natural Modesty. He is a great Friend
to

to his Well-wishers, of great Parts, and of greater Capacity; but moderate and submissive in his Opinions. He is greatly inclin'd to Works of Piety, and to Devotion, especially to mental Prayer, in which he never fails to spend one hour in the Morning, and another at Night. Even from his Youth he has led an exemplary Life, altho' merry and pleasant. And in the Courts of Appeals and Requests, there was not a Referendary that equal'd him in the Reporting of Causes.

He was sent first Nuncio to *Turin*, and afterwards to *Paris*; when they could find no body, because of the declining Age of *Clement* the Xth. that would run the Hazard of so great Charges, in such an uncertainty of the Event. However, it happen'd, that Cardinal *Altieri* being desirous to stop the Mouth of the *French* Ambassador, with Respect to the pretended Promotion for the Crowns, procur'd very soon the six Cardinal's Caps, that were vacant, to be given to as many worthy deserving Persons; that the Promotion might meet with Universal Applause. And in this Number was *Spada* included, as being Nuncio to his most Christian Majesty. He was soon after made Legate of *Urbino*, in which Government he acquir'd great Fame, notwithstanding that his Ministers did him a great deal of Prejudice, because of his too easie Nature. Since his Return to *Rome*, he has attended constantly on the Congregations, studying with great Application the Causes that come before them; for which Reason, he has acquir'd the Universal Applause of all *Rome*, and a great Esteem in the Sacred College.

In all Appearance, this Cardinal will meet with no Exclusive in the Conclave, he having no Enemies:

mies: And there is no doubt, but the Princes of the House of *Medicis* will assist him in all his Occasions, out of Gratitude for his having shown himself partial to their Family. Besides, he having marry'd one of his Nieces at *Florence* to the Marquis *Riccardi*, she will always serve as a Pledge of his Fidelity to that House.

With a little addition of time, he may acquire the total Merit of being thought perfectly worthy of the Triple Crown; whereas at present, because of his robust Complexion, with the Number only of fifty seven Years, as a Fruit not fully ripe, he is look'd upon as a Pope in the bud. For the Sacred College will not now exalt any one that has not the balsamick Quality of Decrepitness, rather than old Age, In the mean while, I shall with *Seneca* announce to him the glad Tydings when his time comes, *Age gratias de his qua accepisti, reliqua expella.*

F

THE

THE
LIFE

OF

John Baptist Spinola,

Otherwise call'd

St. CECILIA,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was orn in *Madrid*, the 27th of *September*, 1615. and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth, the first of *September*, 1681.

As he had his Birth, so likewise had he his Education in *Madrid*, where his Father the Count of *Pezzuola*, a Nobleman of *Genoa*, liv'd a long time a Banker, and heap'd up great Wealth by the many Bargains he struck up, between the King of *Spain's* Treasury, and the Bank of *Genoa*. And his Son being by this means a natural born Subject of *Spain*, has been frequently provided in the Datary with many rich Benefices, which the Father's Interest at the Court of *Spain* procur'd him.

He

He first of all got from King *Philip II.* the Abbey of *St. Peter*, and *John* of *Taranto*, which is worth a thousand *Roman* Crowns a Year; and afterwards he had a Pension of as much more assign'd him out of the Bishoprick of *Mazzaro* in *Sicily*. After the Death of Cardinal *St. Cecilia*, his Uncle by the Father's side, he succeeded, when he was but young, to the Archbishoprick of *Matera* in *Basilicata*, as being a natural born Subject of *Spain*; that being one of the Churches which are provided alternatively, one time with an *Italian*, and the other with a *Spaniard*.

There he gave himself wholly up to Pleasure, and to merchandizing in Corn, which as it was no way suitable to his Character, so it made his Honesty be call'd in question. After some years he was named to the Archbishoprick of *Genoa* his own Republick, where, in progress of Time, meeting with some Disgusts, and Hardships, on account of the Ecclesiastical Immunities, he resolv'd to retire from thence, under the specious pretext of being imploy'd in *Rome* by *Clement* the Xth, who made him at first Secretary to the Congregation for Bishops, and the Regular Clergy, at the Request of the Imperial and *Spanish* Ambassadors, to whom the Marquis *de Los Balbases*, this Cardinal's Kinsman, had prevail'd with their Sovereigns to recommend him very earnestly. After this, when *Monsignor Bevilacqua* was named Plenipotentiary to the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, this Cardinal succeeded him in his Government of *Rome*, retaining at the same time his other Office of Secretary, till *Monsignor Pignatelli*, the present Pope, should be recall'd from his Bishoprick of *Lecce* to take possession of it.

In both the fore-mention'd Posts he carry'd himself with great Constancy and Civility, having gain'd the good will of every body; but shew'd himself to be a Man of little or no Learning, to be very covetous, but not the least inclin'd to the Rigour of Justice; for which reason *Pasquin* said of him, that he hang'd more Purfes than Malefactors. He has nevertheless carry'd himself very politically, and particularly in his Government of the City, having always maintain'd the Respect due to his Character, without ever disgusting any Ambassador, or Prince, or Nobleman of *Naples*, or even the least Commoner. As this prudent Conduct of his is to be admir'd at all times, so more especially in the Rigours of the Pontificate of *Innocent*, XI. with whom he found always means to carry fair, altho' he sometimes opposed him with an open Denial, when he was not able to persuade him with Reason. He was geatly to blame however, when he turn'd into Ridicule the Oracles of the Pope, and especially when he commanded him to prosecute any one criminally upon the account of Damages, that he might not partake of that Hatred which usually attends such rigorous Prosecutions. To avoid that Extream, he ran too far into the other of being too indulgent; and transgress'd the Limits so far, that Offenders abused his Clemency; and in the time of his Government, many Criminals, lying under the Sentence of Death, have been seen to walk openly in the publick Places of the City. Offences, nay even excessive Crimes, were very frequent, but seldom punish'd; the Offenders being rarely or never prosecuted in Justice. For which reason, there was sometimes more human Blood shed in the Streets, than of Beasts in the Shambles. For this his easie and mild Government, he was highly
applauded

applauded by the common People, as well as by the Nobles, and was greatly esteem'd in all the Courts of the Princes.

He is genteel, and has a free easie Carriage; he is a great Lover of Assemblies, and altogether averse to Study. He's courteous, but not exceeding the Bounds of Gravity; humoursome, but still with a degree of Moderation; and he is perfectly good at Repartees. He is well vers'd in the Grounds of the Christian Faith, and yet better instructed in the Interests of all the Christian Princes. He is otherwise no great Friend to Learning of any kind, no more than he is to Application in Business; he having always spent most of his time in tripping about to Feasts, and in frequenting the Conversations, there to divert himself, or rather to satiate himself in all the sensual Pleasures, to the great Shame of his Age, and his Profession, which ought to have kept him at a distance from all such Vices. And for this reason, it was said of him, that he studied more Humanity than Rhetorick. Where he fail'd in want of Learning, he made it up sufficiently by his Natural Parts; for when he heard any difficult Point started in the Congregations, in which he was at a loss what to say, he suddenly came out with some Jest or pleasant Story, that he might not expose himself to other People's Censure, by giving an Answer that was nothing to the purpose. He is a Lover of Glory, and Applause, to gain which he has laid aside his former Parsimony, and left off his trading for Wealth.

He has been, and still is a Friend to the House of *Altieri*, which he owns to be the Author of his present Fortune. He was very fair for being seated in *St. Peter's* Chair, and after the manner of those that refuse any thing only in outward appearance,

according to the Opinion of *Seneca*, he avoided those that spake to him on that Head, but still with a Freedom and Easiness, that shew'd him not to be out of humour at the Proposal. And to make his way thither the easier, he avoided carefully all sorts of Quarrels that might occasion his Exclusion by any of the Crowns or Factions, he letting every one live after their own way. And were it not that he is a cripple of the Gout, both in his Feet and Hands, which renders him unfit for performing the Pontifical Functions, notwithstanding his notorious Vices, yet there is not at present on in the Sacred College that would be fairer to wear the Triple Crown than himself. Nay, I dare be bold to say, that if he were able only to assist in the Chappel, and in the Consistories, and to give the Benediction to the People, he would be chosen Pope before ever the Cardinals went into the Conclave.

He has none of the Factions, or Crowns for his Enemies. The *Spaniards* look upon him as their Countryman. The *French* well know, that his Genius leads him to be their Friend; of which he has given Proof ever since the Duke *d'Estrees* was Ambassador from *France* to this Court; as he did afterwards in the time of the Marquis of *Lavardin*, when he disapproved constantly the Conduct of *Innocent* the XIth, his own Creator, and of all his Favourers; and he would have five several times adjusted all those Differences, if those of the *Austrian* Party had not hindred it, by suggesting to the Pope his Partiality to the Crown of *France*. He is protected by Cardinal *d'Estrees*, altho' he did not very much please him, when he labour'd so earnestly to adjust the Difference with the Marquis of *Lavardin*; whom he inform'd, how that the Marriage between his Catholick Majesty and *Mademoiselle* of *Orleans*, had been proposed by

by him to the Marquis *de los Balbases* his Kinsman, by whose means it was afterwards concluded; as also the Peace of *Nimeguen* that was so advantageous to *France*. He acquainted him likewise with the Ability of the said Marquis, as Plenipotentiary for *Spain*, in all those matters relating to *France*.

We ought to reflect on the near Relation he has to the new *French* Ambassador the Prince of *Monaco*, with whom he has likewise a very intimate Confidence. This new Intimacy of his with the *French* Ambassador, being so very strict, has a little startled the *Austrian* Party, and especially the *Spaniards*, whom he endeavours to cajole by several Favours done to the said Nation, which he always declar'd to be his own. He is very vain, as also a great Dissembler, of which he gave sufficient Proof when he was Governour of *Rome*. With a few Glasses of cool Liquors, which he gives in an Evening in the Conversations held at his House, he has spunged to himself the Character of a generous Man, which does by no means belong to him in that degree he has it among the People; and for this reason he is call'd by some the Pope of the Coffeehouse.

THE
L I F E
O F

Francis Bonvisi,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Lucca* the 17th of *May*, 1629, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the first of *September*, 1681.

He was first of all Cupbearer, and afterwards Master of Ceremonies to the deceased Cardinal *Chigi*, at the time that he was first Minister of State; in whose Court he appear'd a fierce Enemy to the Abbot *Rospigliosi*, who was afterwards Cardinal Nephew to *Clement* the IXth. *Bonvisi* having given that Abbot the Nick-name of the *Little Doctor*, he, out of Revenge, excluded *Bonvisi*'s Uncle two several times from being Pope, by the Interest of the French Faction, with which he was united; altho' the French had before that included *Bonvisi*, and wish'd that he might be Pope as soon as any other Cardinal whatsoever.

For which reason, I can never bring my self to believe, that ever this Cardinal will have the Consent of *France* for his own Exaltation; since the Duke of *Zagarola*, if he cannot succeed for any of the two Cardinals his Brothers, will at least

least use his utmost Endeavours with that Crown for the Exclusion of this Cardinal. He will meet with great Opposition from the House of *Barberini*; because the three Cardinals of that Family, the Dean, *Anthony*, and *Charles* united themselves with the French Faction, with the Flying Squadron, and with *Rospigliosi*, to exclude Cardinal *Girolamo Bonvisi*, Uncle to this Cardinal, and that barely upon his account.

Cardinal *Pamfilio*, with his few Adherents, will likewise oppose him; and that, because his Uncle was opposed by all the Creatures of *Innocent* the Xth, as also because of the known Disputes this Cardinal himself had with the said Pope; during whose Pontificate, that he might not pollute his Hands, in the Rapines committed by *Donna Olimpia*, he not only refused to be made Intendant for the Provision of Corn, but sold even his Place of Commissioner of the Treasury, and retir'd to his own Country, as if he had been banish'd the Court, whither he did not return till after the Death of the said Pope. The Zealots, altho' Creatures likewise of *Odescalchi*, will be against him; because he and they do not agree in their Maxims, which are very different. Neither will the Creatures of *Pignatelli* concur heartily to his Exaltation; since they hardly know him, and consequently cannot hope to have any share in the Government under him. *Ottoboni*, by the Mediation of *Monsignor Scotti*, *Bonvisi's* Kinsman, may be brought to consent to the Election of this Cardinal, when he sees all his hopes lost for *Panciatichi*, and *Costaguti* his own Creatures.

But as to this Cardinal, I do not see how the great Duke will be brought over to his Interest, he having busied himself a little too much in hindering

dering his Colleagues the Auditors of the *Rota*, from paying a visit to his Royal Highness's Ambassador. Besides, there are other political Considerations, which will hardly permit the Illustrious House of *Toscanny* ever to concur to his Exaltation; as that of his being a *Lucquesse* by Birth, the Subjects of which Republick have all along taken Cardinal *Negroni's* part, in the famous Law-suit he had with the present Cardinal *Medicis*. And then the Memory of what Cardinal *Leopold Medicis* did in the Conclave of *Clement* the Xth, is still very recent, he having joyn'd with those that were for the Exclusion of this Cardinal's Uncle, altho' he was Head of the Spanish Faction, and altho' the Spaniards desired *Bonvisi* might be Pope as soon as any Cardinal whatever, because his Country owns the preservation of their Liberty to be intirely owing to the Protection of that Monarchy. The Spaniards therefore, as well as the Germans, would certainly concur to the Exaltation of this Cardinal, were they not to receive their Directions from Cardinal *Medicis*, who, for the Reasons above-mentioned, will always stand up against him. There remains only the Adherents of *Chigi*, and *Altieri*, who seem to be under some Obligation of assisting him; but the Heads of these two Factions being dead, the Gratitude of the Cardinals that depended on them is likewise extinct. So that as to this most worthy Cardinal, I do not know any one that is able to overcome, in his Favour, all these Difficulties that seem to be insuperable. He has endeavour'd to procure to himself the Assistance of *France* by several ways, and particularly by the means of one *Mellani*, a famous Eunuch, and a renown'd Politician; who obtain'd likewise the consent of that Crown
for

for this Cardinal's Uncle, as also for *Rospigliosi*, who was afterwards *Clement* the IXth, of happy Memory.

This Cardinal is accused of having been several times, in the Exercise of his publick Ministry, by-
assed to the prejudice of the Crown of *France*, out of
meer Revenge, that they had hinder'd his Uncle
from being Pope. And the first time he shew'd any
marks of this his Partiality, was when he was
Nuncio in *Cologne*, and afterwards in *Poland*, af-
ter the Death of King *Michael*, when he appear-
ed outwardly in his Words to be of a French ge-
nius, whereas by his Actions he shew'd plainly his
Partiality to the House of *Austria*, | in favour of
the Duke of *Lorraine*; whom he procur'd to be
married to the Queen Dowager of *Poland*, Sister
to the Emperor. But the French Ambassador ha-
ving, by his Interest, secured the Crown of that
Kingdom to King *John Sobieski*, he being Bro-
ther-in-Law to their Countryman the Marquis of
Bethunes, and marry'd to a French Woman, the
King gave the Nomination of that Crown to a
Cardinalship to the French Ambassador *Bonfi*,
Archbishop of *Toulouse*; at the request of his most
Christian Majesty, who promoted his Interest
next to his own.

There being one Branch of the Family of the
Bonvisi, this Cardinal's Relations, settled in *France*,
this makes him hope for some Succours from
thence to his greater Advancement; there having
been some of them who have several times of-
fer'd themselves to his most Christian Majesty, as
Hostages for this Cardinal's Fidelity to the
Crown of *France*. But it is impossible, moral-
ly speaking, that ever the King of *France* can
forgive him those Letters and Writings that
were intercepted when he was Nuncio at *Vienna*,
in

in which he shew'd himself to be a violent and secret Enemy to that Crown. It was he likewise who discover'd to the Emperor, that the late Prince of *Baden*, President of War, was not only *French* in his Genius, but had a Pension from the *French* King. However, the Emperor would never give Credit to this, till *Innocent* the XIth made him sensible of it, by sending the Duke of *Mantoua* to convince him by Word of Mouth, he having first entrusted that Duke here at *Rome* with the Secret of all the Cabals and Treacheries the Prince of *Baden* was engaged in, and this was the Occasion of his being turn'd out of his Office. It is therefore to no Purpose that *Monsignor Scotti* endeavours to procure the Consent of *France*, by the Interest that Cardinal *Omodei* has with the Princess *Orsini*, who has likewise spoke of it to the Prince of *Monaco*.

It is certain, that this Cardinal deserves the Papacy as well as any Person whatever, in respect to his great Parts, his skill in Politicks, his application to Business, his free easie carriage, his liveliness of Spirit, and his perfect knowledge of the Affairs of the World. It were to be wish'd, that he were more esteem'd for his exemplary Life, for his Humility and Affability; that he were more circumspect, and more easie to be persuaded. He is learned to a great degree in History, in Politicks, and in the Classick Authors; but he has never applied himself to the study of other Sciences, as particularly Law and Divinity. He speaks well, but always with great Vanity of himself; and acts yet better, but is still undervaluing others. He has a great capacity for the most perplex'd Business that is. His Adversaries and Enemies, which are not a few in number, traduce him, as being cholerick, restless, arrogant,

rogant, proud and arbitrary. That haughty and disdainful Look of his makes him be taken for another *Lucifer*, and his venomous Tongue has made People fancy him to be a second *Aretin*. At first, when he lived with Cardinal *Chigi*, he was somewhat too free in his Expressions, and valuing himself often on his Poetical Licences, he let the World see, that he had Occasion to be brought under the Reform. And it is not long since *Pasquin* said of him, *Bonvisi is Francis by Name, but not that St. Francis of Assisi*. He is in other respects a Man of great Cunning and Learning, ready to do service, efficacious, and most generous.

During the time of his Nunciature in *Germany* he was so much wearied with *Innocent* the XIth's delaying to promote him to the Cardinalship, that two Months before his Promotion, he despairing of any higher Advancement, resolv'd by all means to depart from *Vienna*. But, for his good Luck, he sent the Letter to Cardinal *Chigi*, in which he desir'd Leave from the Pope to quit his Nunciature. Had the Letter been deliver'd to the Pope, his Holiness would never have promoted him to the Cardinalship; as he did in the like Case to the Patriarch *Martelli*, who wrote just such another Letter to the Pope, desiring to be recalled from his Nunciature in *Poland*. He sent his Letter to Cardinal *Altieri*, who presented it to his Holiness, whereas on the contrary, Cardinal *Chigi* tore *Bonvisi's* Letter in pieces, and wrote him a sharp Answer, reproaching him for being guilty of such a Weakness, and exhorting him to continue patiently in his Post. So that very soon after he was dignified with a Cardinal's Cap, which was given him rather as being due to the Post he was in,
than

78 *The LIFE of, &c.*

than as a Mark of any good Will that *Innocent* the XIth had to him.

In the three Nunciatures which this Cardinal has had, and particularly in the time of so many Victories gain'd over the *Turks* in *Hungary*, he had a fair Occasion of shewing his greatest Talents, by obliging many Princes and Cardinals with an exact Account of what pass'd in those Parts. He is a great Friend to his Friends, having a particular Propensity to oblige others. He is a Person fit for any difficult Undertaking whatever, and the Sacred College cannot boast of such another, as to the Knowledge of Politicks, and State-Affairs, that is requir'd to make an able Pope. It is high time now, considering his great Age, and his Pastoral Care of his own Country, which he has administr'd many Years with great Exemplarity of Life, that we should forget any Failings he has been guilty of in his younger Days. But the Court will not believe him, they having an Opinion of his being another Duke of *Valentin*, of a restless Spirit, petulant, inflexible, obstinate, and revengeful, having a great Presumption of himself, and undervaluing all others, and being of such a Humour, that he would turn the World upside down with his Quarrels, if ever he should come to be Pope. And indeed he could not well fail in having the great Lot, if the Merit of the Papacy consist-ed in having *Tacitus* upon the Finger ends, and his Maxims fix'd in the Head, or rather in the Heart. And some are of Opinion, that this Cardinal would prove just such another as one of those Persons describ'd by *Aristophanes*, *Quibus nec Ora, nec Fides, nec ulla Forma pensio est.*

He died the 25th of *August* 1700.

T H E
L I F E
O. F

Savo Mellini.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* the 5th. of *July* 1644, and was promoted to the Cardinalship by *Innocent* the XIth the first of *September* 1681.

Fortune seems to have exerted its utmost Vigour in Behalf of this Cardinal, as being Cardinal *Altieri's* greatest Favourite. He had no sooner put himself in Prelature, but he was immediately, by the Death of *Monsignor Falconieri*, made Secretary to the Congregation, for the good Government of the State. This gave some Disgust to the Prelates that were more advanced in Years than he, who thought it hard that a Young Man should be prefer'd to them, who had neither that Experience in Business, nor that Stock of Merit as they. however, the great Parts and Application which that Young Prelate shew'd in the Discharge of his Office, made *Altieri* resolve to send him Nuncio to *Spain*, after the Promotion of *Marescotti*, where, by his high Living, and his constant Regals,

gals, he did Wonders, beyond the Expectation of every Body in that Kingdom, as well as in this Court: The Ladies, who have great Interest at the Court of *Spain*, were so much taken with the Generosity and Civility of this genteel Nuncio, that they befriended him in all the Favours he asked, calling him the Heroe of all the Prelates and Pope's Ministers.

Notwithstanding that his Nunciature happen'd at a time when all *Spain* was in a Convulsion, by the change of many Persons in the Ministry, and by the Opposition made to the Queen-Mother, yet he found always Means to observe a perfect Equality in the Discharge of his Office, he having had the good Luck in all his Projects to give Satisfaction to all Parties. And altho' the Change of Governments could not fail to expose him to great Difficulties, yet he steer'd his Course so even, that he was not suspected by any Body, he carrying fair and indifferent with all the contending Parties. At first he was thought to be of a *French* Genius, he having frequently opposed the King's Ministers in what he could not reasonably grant them. He has so good a Faculty at reconciling contrary Qualities within himself, that at the same time he was acting the part of a bold undaunted Minister, and a Zealot for Religion, he was a busie Gallant among the Ladies, frequenting their Conversations with all the Gaiety and Liberty any *French* Courtier could do. Besides, this Nuncio having succeeded to *Marescotti*, who did not know what it was to throw away his Money idly, he got a great Applause for his Profuseness in Spending; and whereas other Nuncio's usually enriched themselves at that Court, he contracted great Debts in his Nunciature.

This

This Cardinal has a most obliging Carriage, is a cordial Friend, and has a great Propensity to do Service. This last Virtue he has to such Excess, that it proves a Vice in him; for being return'd to *Rome* without the Authority of Nuncio, which he had at *Madrid*, he would needs exercise the same Authority here, by intruding himself into every Business for the Benefit of his Neighbour, courting People to employ him in their Affairs, in which he could not always have Success. And for this his Enemies run him down, as being too busie a Body in other People's Affairs, and a Man of no great Foresight. He has the best Heart of any Man alive, and there is not an Instance that he ever denied any Favour, when it was in his Power to grant it. He is a Man of great Judgment, and of a yet greater quickness of Apprehension, and nothing inferior in Eloquence, altho' his Adversaries give out that he is very prolix in his Discourses, and uses a great many superfluous Words. He is not thoroughly grounded in the Sciences, but has such a competent Knowledge of them, that he is able to discourse learnedly enough upon any Subject whatever.

He is courteous, well bred, and efficacious, nay, he is sometimes, as it were, impetuous, and his Choler would have the Mastery over him, if it were not corrected by his Prudence. He is open-hearted, and free-spoken, and has a particular Inclination to Diversions, but at present he abstains from all manner of Pastime, having given himself wholly up to Devotion, ever since he was in danger of being Thunder struck in his Episcopal Palace at *Orvieto*. He removed afterwards to the Church of *Sutri* and *Nepi*, where he leads at present a very exemplary Life, being wholly intent on the Care of his Flock; and when he is here in

Rome he minds nothing but the good Government of his Church, and the Education of his Nephews.

Altho' this Cardinal was the chief Author of the Election of the present Procurator General of the *Jesuites*, the most worthy Father *Tirso Gonzales*, whom he recommended so earnestly to his own Creator the Pope, nevertheless the *Jesuites* are not much in his Interest, because he imprison'd publicly at *Madrid* two Lay-Brothers of that Order for being present at a Bull-baiting, and did not wink at this Offence, as the Order could have wish'd; so that it was generally believ'd that it was the *Jesuites* who procur'd a sharp Memorial to be sent to the Pope against the Nuncio's Proceedings in this Matter.

For some Years past he has enjoy'd no great Stock of Health, which has cast him into a deep Melancholy, and made him altogether leave off going to the Congregations, and abstain from all manner of Business whatever, he giving himself up to a most retir'd Life, and being full of Scruples; whereas formerly he was all Life and Action, and mighty chearful.

He is a great Friend of *Carpegna's*, and in order to procure the Consent of *France* to his Election in the first Vacancy of the Holy See, he desir'd Leave of the Pope to return to *Rome* by the way of *Paris*, which was never yet practis'd by any Nuncio, and which his Holiness denied him. But since he could not succeed in that, he has always maintain'd a good Correspondence with that Court, by the Mediation of some Cardinals, and other Friends he has there; and the same good Understanding he has always kept, and cultivates at present with the two Crowns of the House of *Austria*.

He

He is exceedingly generous and bountiful, and altho' he lives at a Distance both from the Court in *Rome*, and from the Seat of his Bishoprick, yet he does not fail to exercise his Generosity in those Places, by immense Donations and Regals; for which Reason, should he ever come to be Pope, he might be justly call'd by the Name either of *Donus* the second, or *Prodigus* the first, he being one of those denominated by *Sanesi*, *Non ab apparatis, sed ab Animo Regis.*

He died the 10th of February 1701.

T H E
L I F E
O F

Urbano Sacchetti,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* the 13th of *May*, 1640, and was promoted to the Cardinalship by *Innocent* the XIth, the first of *September*, 1681.

He is a sincere hearty Man, and of an angelical Temper; he has good Intentions, and most noble Ideas; he is courteous, obliging, generous and agreeable; easie, ingenious, honourable, punctual, and a great Alms-Giver. He is learned in many Sciences, especially in History, and in the knowledge of the Interests of all the Princes of the World; but he renders himself altogether useless by his great natural Abstraction. He has been always so much of a French Genius, that he could never abstain from applauding every prosperous Event to that Crown. He retains some inward disgust, or rather hatred against the Crown of *Spain*, because of the double Exclusive, which, at two times, it gave in the Conclave

Conclave against Cardinal *Julius Sacchetti* his Uncle.

He has been formerly a Lover of Pleasure, and he continues still to be an Enemy to Fatigue. His Life hangs by a Thread, he being subject to the Apoplexy; the repeated Fits of which, as well within these few Days past, as a Year ago, brought him to the last Extremity. And altho' he is at present somewhat better, yet he is not in a condition to expect ever to be thoroughly re-establish'd in his Health, and consequently cannot hope for any greater Fortune. He thinks on nothing now but the Salvation of his Soul, and to preserve his Life as long as he can; otherwise, in a greater Maturity of Age, he would be look'd upon to stand as fair for St. *Peter's* Chair, as any of the other Candidates; his Vote having been always had in great Veneration in the Congregations, it being totally founded upon Justice.

He was made Prelate, and Commissioner of the Treasury by *Alexander* the VIIth, to whose Family he is altogether partial. He receiv'd the Auditor's Place of the said Treasury, and afterwards the Cardinal's Cap from the Hands of *Innocent* the XIth; who gave him also the Church of *Viterbo*, after the Death of Cardinal *Brancacci*, likewise his own Creature.

Two Weeks before he had his last Fit of the Apoplexy, he resigned the said Bishoprick with the charge of two thousand Crowns of Pension, and very lately his Holiness did him the particular Favour of laying upon it likewise a Pension of a thousand Crowns, in Favour of the Marquis his Nephew; he having likewise a Month before married his Niece to the rich Count of *Caprara*, the only Nephew and Heir to

the Marshal *Caprara*. By the means of this Marriage, he has, without doubt, set on Foot the Project of procuring the Emperor's inclusive for Cardinal *Acciaïoli* his Kinsman. He is of such a sweet Temper, that he could not possibly have any great Enemies, he having always endeavour'd to live, and to let live. Some time ago he was not of any great note, he never having taken Offence at another Man's Conscience; so that *Ovid* may be said to have sung of him, *Non numerus sumus, & fruges consumere nati.*

He died at *Rome* in the Year 1705.

T H E
L I F E
O F
Opitio Pallavicino,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Genoa* the 15th of *October* 1632, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the 2d of *September* 1686.

The many Governments which he worthily administered in the Ecclesiastical Territories, procur'd him a great Applause at the Court of *Rome*, for which Reason he was deservedly pitch'd upon to be sent Nuncio, first to the Court of *Florence*, and afterwards to *Poland*. In both these Nunciatures he acquitted himself with great Honour, altho' he was branded by some with being very humour-some, and hugely covetous. Those that were jealous of his Advancement, to discredit him the more, said, that he was commonly reputed to be deceitful, a Dissembler, and a Caballer, to be captious, restless, a Caviller, and a Man never to be contented. But for my part, in Conformity to the *Jesuites*, his most partial Friends, I have always

known him to be a Man of great Learning and Attention, to be Pious, Just, and Charitable, to be punctual, circumspect, and ready to do Service, zealous, and above all prudent to a high degree.

In his Nunciature of *Poland* he applied himself constantly with Vigour to promote the Interest of the Catholick League, altho' this is denied by the Emperor, who positively asserts, that this Nuncio favoured the *French* Interest so much in *Poland*, that *Innocent* the XIth was never able by his Means to prevail with King *John* to prosecute his Victories over the *Turks*. The Reason of which was, as he says, because the Nuncio was not willing to render himself more odious to *France*, than what he had done in the beginning of his Nunciature, by opposing himself to the *French* Ambassador, the Bishop of *Beauvais*, at present Cardinal *Janson*, who frighted the Nuncio with his Threats, at the time that his most Christian Majesty was a declar'd Enemy of the *Genoese*. Nevertheless, when *Monfignor Cantelmi*, who is now a Cardinal, succeeded him in the Nunciature, he discover'd all the Cabals of the *French*, setting himself zealously and heartily to work for depressing the common Enemy. And *Cantelmi*, after he was dignified with the Sacred Purple, that he might shew his Gratitude to his Creator, enter'd a Protestation against King *John*, for his too great Intimacy with the *French*, for which Reason the Queen of *Poland*, from whom he never expected any great Favour, was always his Enemy, altho' he now seeks to get into her Favour, in Case he should ever have any fair Prospect in a Conclave, which is very doubtful.

When he was on his Way hither from *Poland*, *Innocent* the XIth named him Legate of *Urbino*, which

which obliged him to go to take Possession of that Government, before he came to *Rome* to receive the Cardinal's Hat. There he let himself be entirely govern'd by a certain Priest of the Name of *Silvestri*, born at *Sienna*; however he was not charged with the Crime with which Legates are usually tax'd, of selling of Places and Licenses; but was only blamed for his too great Oeconomy. In the said Legateship he did neither much Good nor much Harm, being moderate in all his Actions; he is capable enough of Business, and of a most Angelical Life. In the last Conclave he appear'd to be a mighty Man among the Zealots, and particularly used his utmost Endeavours with *Negroni* and *Corfi* for the Exclusion of *Pignatelli*. But very soon after he declar'd himself secretly in his Favour, by the Mediation of *Cantelmi* and *Imperiali*; having bargain'd for himself before-hand the rich Bishoprick of *Osimo*, which fell vacant during the sitting of the Conclave, by the Death of Cardinal *Anthony Bichi*. This unlawful Contract was hugely exclaim'd against by the whole Court, and Cardinal *Negroni*, altho' penn'd up within the Walls of the Conclave, made himself be heard over all *Rome*, traducing him for an Hypocrite, for being Simoniackal, Covetous, and Treacherous. But for my part, I can hardly believe that a Cardinal of an unspotted Conscience, as *Pallavicino* is, could ever be capable of doing such a base Action, altho' I must needs own, that at first appearance he does not seem to be very excusable.

He is indifferent with all the Crowns and Factions, and consequently will not be so easily reject-ed, unless *Negroni*, or some other of the Cardinal Zealots, should fly in his Face, on account of this Exception that lyes against him. The *French*, altho' they are desirous to raise a *Genoese* to the
Papal

Papal Throne, yet they will not readily set up this Cardinal preferably to others; altho' Father *la Chaise* crys him up beyond all the rest. Cardinal St. *Cesareo*, being *Pallavicino's* Relation, and his most intimate Friend, will strive at any rate whatever to procure his Exaltation. But this will not be very acceptable to the People of *Rome*, because of the Character he has, of being too covetous, they having in Abomination the Thoughts of the Oeconomy of a *Genoese* Pope, after that they have been under the Government of three other Foreigners that were not very prodigal, the one a *Milanese*, the other a *Venetian*, - and the third, for our good Luck, a *Neapolitan*. So that the Sentiment of *Seneca* is verified in this Cardinal, *Nunquam volui Populo placere, nam quæ ego scio, non probat Populus, quæ probat Populus, ego nescio.*

He died in *Rome* the 11th of *February* 1700, and on the 13th of the same Month his Funeral was celebrated in his own Titular Church of *San Martino de Monti*, where he was buried.

The Occasion of his Death was said to be a severe Reprimand which *Innocent* the XIIth gave him, for having gone about to secure an Interest for the future Vacancy of the Throne at the time that the said Pope was ill.

T H E
L I F E
O F

Marcellus Durazzi,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Genoa* the 6th of *March*, 1630. and was advanced to the Cardinals^{hip} by *Innocent* the XI. the 2d. of *September*, 1686.

Nature seems to have been somewhat fantastical in shewing the power of its Art on this great Person, who notwithstanding the Deformity of three great Defects, he being squint-ey'd, lame, and hunch-back'd, yet nevertheless he sees well, walks well, and has a very goodly Presence. This Cardinal possesses all the Merit and good Qualities that can be expected in a worthy Church-man. He is well vers'd in Morality, better instructed in the Rites of the holy See, and excellently well inform'd of all the Maxims and Politicks of Christendom. He is wise, cunning, of great Application, having a free easie way with him, and is of a most excellent commendable Life. Altho' he lives tolerably great, yet he is a good manager of the Interests of his own Family, for which reason his Adversaries, and those that envy his Merit,

Merit, tax him with being too covetous of Riches, and having too passionate a concern for his Relations.

He has one only Brother named *John Baptist*, who is upwards of sixty Years of Age, was never marry'd, and who being one of the Senators, is employ'd in several Offices, in which he acquits himself with great Honour. He had another elder Brother called by the Name of *Peter*, who died in his own Country the beginning of this Month; he had been Doge, and was highly applauded in his Exercise of that Office, he not being inferiour to any in Morals, or in Politicks. He has left Widow, the Lady *Violante Garbarini*, a Lady highly to be esteem'd for her great Virtues, and her exemplary Life, of which all those of her Family make a particular Profession. He has also left behind him three Sons, *Cesar* that is a Widower, *Girolamo* that is a Jesuite, and *Stephen* an Abbot, who has studied for several years Divinity and Law in the *Roman College*.

This last has been educated under the excellent Direction of his Uncle, who in the Exercise of the several Governments assign'd him in the Ecclesiastical State, has in every one of them acquir'd great Praise; as likewise in the Vice-Legateship of *Bolonia*, in the time that Cardinal *Caraffa* was Legate, who from that time prognosticated to him a greater Fortune, because of his high Merit, calling him, as *Alexander* the VIIIth was wont to do, *Pero brutto buono*; that is, an ugly Pear, but a good one. He obtain'd afterwards the Vice-Legateship of *Avignon*, in the time that this Court had several Differences with *France*; but he govern'd himself so well, as to give no Disgust to that Crown, and great Contentment to the Holy See. For which reason he

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was afterwards declar'd Nuncio to *Portugal*, where he continu'd twelve Years. In the time of his Nunciature, Pope *Innocent* the XIth, suspended the Apostolical Secretaries, out of which vacable Offices he had his Maintenance assign'd him of two thousand Crowns; yet notwithstanding this Disappointment, he refus'd a Donative of seventy thousand Crows, which the Father of the *Portuguese* Commissioner offer'd to give him out of hand, provided that in the famous Cause concerning the new Christians, converted from Judaism, he would without any Incroachment on Justice concur with them, with the same Gallantry and Flattery, which he afterwards practis'd without any such Reward.

The King of *Portugal* being highly edified with so generous an Action, and taking compassion of his Wants, offer'd to naturalize him a Subject of *Portugal*, and to give him the Church of *Evora*, which is the richest Bishoprick of that Kingdom; but the Nuncio generously refus'd it. His *Portuguese* Majesty admiring this Heroical Merit of the Nuncio, presented him with the Ring he had on his Finger, set with a large Diamond of the value of two thousand Pistols; and acquainted the Pope with the Generosity of his Nuncio, who having him in great Esteem, sent him immediately to the Court of *Spain*, during which Nunciature he was promoted to the Purple. But he did not leave *Madrid* till after the Death of *Innocent* the XIth, and did not arrive at *Rome* till after the Exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, from whom he receiv'd the Cardinal's Hat, and afterwards leave to go to his Church of *Carpentras*, which his Creator had given him as a Provision.

The said Pope *Alexander* the VIII, call'd him back to *Rome*, having given him the Bishoprick of

of *Ferrara*, but he would never take Possession of it, being unwilling to engage himself for nine thousand Crowns of Pension which his Holiness had laid on the said Bishoprick. *Ottoboni* being dead, and the now reigning *Pignatelli* exalted to the Throne, he gave him the Church of *Spoleti*, which he made him very soon after resign, when he declar'd him Legate of *Bolonia*, upon the Scruple of having taken away a Bishop from his Residence, insinuated to him by Cardinal *Aghirre*, and without giving him any other Recompence at that time, except five hundred Crowns, altho' before his Resignation he had promised to make him intire Satisfaction, which is since reduced to the Bishoprick of *Faenza*, but with the Burden of five thousand Crowns of Pension to Cardinal *Negroni*.

This frequent change of Churches, altho' happening without his Fault, has done him no great Service in the Opinion of good Ecclesiasticks, they being persuaded that the repudiating so many Churches is inconsistent with sound Divinity; and this has likewise confirm'd them the more in the Opinion they had of his being covetously inclin'd. He has nevertheless given Proofs of Splendor and Magnificence, having within the space of one Year, that he has been Bishop of that place, given to the Church of *Faenza*, a Service of a large Crucifix, and of six silver Candlesticks of great value, assigning over and above to the Sacristy two hundred Crowns a Year, that it may be better serv'd, and be supply'd with all the sacred Vestments that are wanting.

In the two Nunciatures of *Portugal* and *Spain*, he acquir'd no less Praise than Merit with the holy See, because of the continual Services he did it; and he being most fertile of Expedients, and
having

having a great quickness of Apprehension, found means in both the Courts to avoid not only Disputes of greater moment, but even the least misunderstanding, and that to the great Satisfaction of all Parties. Besides he has such a political, attractive Quality, that there is no Instance can be given of any one disgusted at him, altho' even severely chastiz'd by him; nor has there ever been any one that went away from his conversation without receiving Comfort.

In the last Conclave he govern'd himself with so great Abstraction, whether artificial or natural, that not only has he procur'd to himself no Enemies, but even not the least distrust with any. Hence it is that the Pretenders to the Papacy say of him, that if ever he arrive at that Dignity, he will prove quite different from what he seems to be at present, he being a true Dissembler. They would moreover discredit him, as if he were of a terrible Genius, and superiour to himself; making a shew at present of his own unfitness, and simplicity; when at the same time 'tis well known that he is greatly active, and able by himself to govern the whole Christian World, without the least help from others. And he has already given occasion to the World to admire his prudent Conduct, in the difficult Legateship of *Bolonia*, which he govern'd with great Applause, and with equal Generosity, and Expence, because of the great and continual Diversions and Recreations with which he entertain'd the People there.

He is very well with all the Princes, whose Concurrence to his Election was once desir'd by his Friends, and they all promis'd not to oppose him. The House of *Neuburg* ought to be his Protector, because of the two Marriages he was instrumental in concluding with the two Kings of
Spain

Spain and *Portugal*. But here it is to be doubted, whether the Electress *Palatine* will be very favourable to him, he having postpon'd her to her own Sister-in-Law, whom he made Queen of *Spain*; for which reason she may be suppos'd to engage the great Duke her Father, and Cardinal *Medici* her Uncle, to traverse this Cardinal's farther Advancement. Nevertheless, it is certain, that his Eminence has upon all occasions shew'd a particular regard for the Advantages of the House of *Toscany*, of which, I believe, the great Duke is fully satisfied, notwithstanding the tares of Discord that have been industriously sown by his Rivals.

The *French* have been his partial Friends, and the Prince of *Monaco* will be for him above all others, as he has declar'd in his political Discourse concerning the future Conclave. The Jesuites are unanimously for him; as is well known to all the Princes, and particularly the Emperor, and the King of *Spain*, with whom there was the greatest difficulty to procure his concurrence. This Cardinal being one of the new Nobility of *Genoa*, and of a Family well affected to *France*; and it being certainly known that the *French* desire to have him Pope in preference to all others; this has given some degree of Suspicion to the House of *Austria*. But nevertheless, his Relations, who trade in several Places of *Spain*, and particularly the rich *Durazzi* in *Cadix*, are as it were Hostages of his Fidelity to that Crown.

He is a Friend to Justice, and a Lover of holy Zeal, but without Rigour, and without Noise. He is a Man of extraordinary great Integrity, without being the least bigotted; is a Friend to young Men, agreeable to old Persons, no ways averse, but rather inclin'd to Diversion; being at
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the same time a Professor of great Piety. In fine, not to say of him that he is, at it were, a Salt that seasons all Meats whatever, even the most noble; we may compare him to a Looking-glass, that represents well all the Figures that are set before it, not adding or diminishing any thing of their Beauty, but representing them purely such as they are in reality. He is averse to all Guile and Deceit, and a great lover of Innocence.

These singular good Qualities of this Cardinal, as they are worthy of a great Pope, so he shews himself to be one of the present Candidates that most deserves to be exalted to that Dignity; he being intent on procuring the Advantages of the Holy See, ambitious to advance the Publick Good, of great Application to Business, anxious to do Services, zealous of Peace, and solicitous to procure Plenty. He is a Protector of the Poor, a Patron to all noble and virtuous Persons, and passionately concern'd to procure Satisfaction to every one. Finally, I conclude all his Encomium with one word, which was used by one of our Wits, *That it is a pity he is a Genoese*. And it seems as if Tacitus had spoke of him, when he said of Corbulo, *Corpore ingens, verbis magnificus; & super experientiam, sapientiamque specie inanium validus*.

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THE

L I F E

OF

Mark Antony Barbarigo,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Venice* the 16th of *March*, 1640; was made Cardinal by *Innocent XI*, the 2d of *September*, 1686.

He was so much cast down and dispirited by his former Adversities, and so little expected to be advanced to any higher Dignity, that the Morning on which he was made Cardinal, People could hardly persuade him to believe the Truth of it, he suspecting that the Person who brought him the News of his Promotion, told him it only with a design to mock him. He was formerly Archbishop of *Corfu*, when *Morosini*, Captain General of the *Venetian* Army, afterwards *Doge* arriv'd there with the Fleet, after having made many Conquests in the *Morea*, which he design'd to celebrate there with publick rejoicings, and singing *Te Deum* in that *Metropolitan* Church. For which Solemnity he sent to have a Canopy erected for him in the Church, which the said Archbishop caus'd immediately to be pull'd down, and because the Captain General gave new Orders to have it set up again, the Archbishop to prevent

vent it, order'd all the Candles to be put out, the Musicians, the Clergy, and all the People who were assembled to celebrate this Thanksgiving, to depart.

Upon this account the Archbishop was afterwards by order of the Senate recall'd to *Venice*, but he refus'd to obey the Order, saying, he acknowledged no other Superior but the Pope, and came immediately and threw himself at his Holiness's Feet, the Republick having sequestrated all his Revenue, not only what he had from the aforesaid Church, but likewise his Patrimony. At *Rome* he had several Supplis given him out of Charity; and the Pope, that he might have a convenient Habitation, assign'd him a free Apartment in the Palace belonging to the Chancery.

In process of time, when he was despairing of being able to supply the Charges of this his miserable Life at *Rome*, and thinking therefore to enter himself a Monk in some Convent, that he might have a way of Livelihood, he was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth, in his last Promotion, which *Pasquin* call'd by the Name of *The Revengeful and Despitiful Promotion*, the Pope having promoted several Subjects in despite of their proper Sovereigns. He was afterwards made Bishop of *Montefiascone* and *Corneto*, where he now resides, wholly intent on the Government of his Dioceses.

Altho' he is a Zealot highly indiscreet, nevertheless because of his great Integrity of Life, he is highly to be commended. He applies himself with great earnestness to ward off the Dangers that are impending upon the holy See, by banishing the Abuses of the Court, and preventing the farther growth of Atheism, that has already got footing in it; he detesting the Impieties that are

wrought in the Court, to the Destruction of all Brotherly Charity, and the great Encouragement of Heresie; while some of the Pope's own Domesticks, out of private Interest, betray their Master, and adhere to the Ambassadors and Ministers of Princes, without any fear of the Pontifical Censures, and bringing even in derision the sacred Hymns and Psalms, by making use of them in Pasquils and Songs, instead of applying them to the Glory and Praise of God, and of the immaculate Virgin, against all which Abuses this Cardinal preaches daily.

He was notwithstanding in the two last Conclaves charged with Ambition and Weakness, for having imprudently endeavour'd, with too great Eagerness, and without the least Politick, to raise to the Papacy the late Cardinal *Barbarigo*, Bishop of *Padoua*, his Relation. But he was even then known to be a Man of great Integrity, of an unspotted Life, tender hearted, well instructed in the moral Virtues, studious of his Breviary, knowing without Book the Christian Doctrine, and most able to give an account of all the Examples mention'd in *Prato Fiorito*.

He is highly charitable to the Poor, and to his great cost has built from the Foundations a Seminary, which he maintains in a manner out of his own Revenue in *Montefiascone*, the Place of his Residence, for the behoof of the Youth in his Diocese. He is diligent in instructing the Children, relieving the Widows and Orphans, visiting the sick, comforting those that are on their Death Bed; having a careful inspection over the Monasteries, and endeavouring to remedy all the Corruptions introduced by Vice; he being all Zeal, and all Piety. So that the Description the holy Scripture gives of *Job*, may be very well

well applied to this Cardinal; *he being a perfect and upright Man, one that feareth God and escheweth Evil*, he labouring under the same Infirmary with all the damn'd, because he is only full of good will. But he has in derision every thing that does not contribute to the Salvation of our Souls, making a good use of the Instruction given by Pliny the younger, *multi famam, pauci conscientiam verentur.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Leopold Kolonitz,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Germany* the 24th of *October* 1651, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the 2d of *September* 1686.

In his younger Days he enter'd himself Knight of *Malta*, thinking to purchase his Livelihood that way, and for that End made his Caravans; but afterwards devoting himself to the Service of the Church, he was first made Bishop of *Javarin*, and afterwards Archbishop of *Strigonia*; and having been always assisting to the Emperor with his Counsel, and with Succours in this last War, he justly deserv'd his Imperial Majesty's Nomination to the Cardinalship, in virtue of which he was promoted to that Dignity.

Ever since the Siege of *Vienna* he has constantly follow'd the Army, together with that worthy Servant of God *Mark d' Aviano*, a Capuchin Friar, exhorting the Soldiers not only to defend themselves bravely, but to extirpate Rebellion and Heresie out of *Hungary*. He acted there the
Part

Part of an Apostolical Missionary, animating those People to continue in their Fidelity to the Emperor, and he bestir'd himself with such Vigour among them, that he laid the Pride of those obstinate Rebels. He very often gave Money out of his own Pocket to supply the Army with Provisions in the time of great Want.

He employs himself wholly in the Service of God, and in advancing the Emperor's Interest. He is zealous to a high degree, but no deep Politician, and little acquainted with the Intrigues of this Court. In the first Conclave, at which he assisted, *Alexander* the VIIIth was elected to his Face, notwithstanding he knew the Emperor was for opposing his Advancement, and that the deceased Cardinal *de Goes* was coming to manage his Exclusion in the Conclave, and that he was already, as it were, at the Gates of *Rome*, yet this Cardinal had not so much Contrivance as to put off the Election till his Arrival, not entering so much as the least Protestation for that End. And even in this last Conclave he made but a sorry Figure, for having united himself with the Zealots, thinking thereby to procure the Exclusion of *Pignatelli*, he was likewise exalted to the Papacy, to this Cardinal's Shame; for which Reason *Pasquin* added the Letter G after the first Syllable of his Surname, the better to express the Value of his Innocence †.

In other Respects he is courteous and genteel, but not a little perplexed, and very credulous in Business, and hard to be persuaded, altho' he is in his Nature humble and submissive. He is likewise generous and serviceable, and so ready to assist every one, that oftentimes engaging himself

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† From the Italian Word *Coglione*, a Sor, or silly Fool,

in too many Undertakings, he cannot always succeed so easily in them all; and this turns much to his Discredit. He entertains Sentiments of a true Christian Prince, and has a great Knowledge of the Political Interests of all the Courts of *Europe*. His natural Lukewarmness is not capable of being heated neither in Favour, nor in Hatred of any one. His best Quality is, that he lives without any violent Passion, whilst as a true *German* he eats like a Man in good Health, and drinks as a sick Man; nevertheless he may apply to himself what *Tacitus* long ago remark'd of *Agricola*, *Procul ab Emulatione adversus Collegas, procul a Contentione adversus Procuratores, & vincere inglorium, & atteri sordidum arbitrabatur.*



T H E
L I F E
O F

Stephen Camus,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *France* the 13th of *October*, 1632, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth, the 2d of *September*, 1686.

This Cardinal refused to comply with his most Christian Majesty, in approving the pretended Regale of the Gallican Church, and subscribing the detestable Propositions, made by the Clergy of *France*, in their Assembly held at *Paris* in the Year 1682, against the Rights of the holy See. And it was upon this account that he was advanced to the Purple in the last revengeful Promotion of *Innocent* the XIth, who thought by this to raise one that was an Enemy to his own Sovereign, and who would oppose himself on all Occasions to the undue Pretensions of that Monarch against the Ecclesiasticks within his Dominions. But matters succeeded quite contrary to the Pope's expectation;

Station; for this Cardinal was no sooner advanced to that Dignity, than he gave assurance to his most Christian Majesty of his most faithful and dutiful Respect to him, declaring that there should be no Cardinal more ready to obey his Majesty's Commands, nor more zealous to advance his Interest than himself. This Declaration he thought necessary to make to the King, that he might not ruin the Interest of his Brothers, who had considerable Estates and Employments in the Kingdom, one of them being first President of the Chamber of Accounts, some concern'd in the King's Revenue, and others Judges in some of the Parliaments, or other chief Tribunals of the Nation.

This promise of being faithful to his Sovereign's Interest he has punctually perform'd, altho' he has endeavour'd outwardly to appear disgusted at his own Nation; and with his counterfeited Zeal he found means in the last Conclave to deceive even the Zealots. For they trusting in him, and confiding to him the Secrets of their Party, that he might bring over to their Interest the French Cardinals, he discover'd to those all the Designs and Projects of the Zealots, and carried himself so cunningly, that they did not perceive any thing of his Treachery till the Conclave was at an end.

The King of *France* did not entirely trust him after the Death of *Innocent* the XIth, which was the reason that he did not suffer him to come to the first Conclave, but after being fully assur'd of his Fidelity he allow'd him to assist at the second. In which Conclave he contracted an intimacy with the Cardinals *Goes* and *Kolonitz* among the *Germans*, as also among the *Spaniards* with the Cardinals *Salazar* and *Aghirre*, that by
their

their means he might have a Friendship with the *Austrian* Party. He feigning himself to these Cardinals to be all Zeal, they unfolded their very Breasts to him, and told him every thing that was privately carrying on in their Fa^ctions. And he, the better to colour his Cheat to the very last; promis'd not to give his Vote to the present Pope, * when he was chosen, altho' at the same time he made the Zealots, that were favourable to his Election, believe that he reserv'd his Vote to give it him by way of *Acce^ssion*, when it should appear by the Scrutiny, that he wanted only one or two Votes to make his Election complete. But this was superfluous, because his Election hapned by the bare Scrutiny, conformably to what has been practis'd ever since the Bull of *Gregory* the XVth.

It was he that was sent by the *French* to treat with *Pignatelli*, and after having gain'd him over to their Interest, he feign'd to discredit him, artifi^ciously representing him to be giddy-headed and unfit for Government, knowing that these Attributes would most effectually recommend him to the Cardinals, and by this Stratagem he facilitated the way for him to arrive at *St. Peter's Throne*. Then not to give suspicⁱon to the Zealots, he let them know that he had been in conference with *Pignatelli*, but made them believe that his Design was only to examine him, to know whether he was really fit for the Papacy; and to them he said, that he had found him to be a Man of great Integrity, but unexperienced, and wholly averse to Business; and this alone was enough
to

* *Innocent XII.*

to get some of them to concur to his Election, they pretending to have a share in the future Government. By this his treacherous dealing with the Zealots, he recommended himself highly to his most Christian Majesty, and reestablish'd himself intirely in his Royal Favour, which he found great Difficulty to preserve, during the Life of *Monfignor Harlay* late Archbishop of *Paris*, who accused this Cardinal not only of *Jansenism*, but of being the Head of the Sect, and he has likewise been taxed with being a Hypocrite and a Dissembler, deceitful and treacherous.

The Followers and Partizans of that Prelate endeavour'd also to discredit him, by publishing many Follies committed by *Camus* in his Youth, by which he not only then ruin'd his Reputation, but made People doubt of his being a true Catholick. It is certain, that Cardinal *Mazarin* having been jealous of his great Spirit, of his being so forward, and having such an easie winning way upon Company, of his Cunning and Ingenuity, got him to be banish'd from the Court under a very lawful Pretext, for having committed a most abominable Sacrilege at a Gentleman's Country Seat near to *Fontainebleau*, in Company with the Marthal de *Vivonne*, and Duke of *Nevers*, and that in the Passion Week, most scandalously giving the Sacrament to a Hog, instead of spending their time there in Penitence and Devotion, as they first gave out that to be the Occasion of their retirement thither, besides a great many other Extravagancies, which they without any Conscience, committed most sacrilegiously, and for which they were most justly punish'd.

Upon this Disgrace, *Camus* retir'd to the Prince of *Conti's* in *Languedoc*; who was at that time
Gover-

Governour of the said Province, and an avowed Protector of *Jansenism*, as was also *Martinozzi* his Wife. *Camus* then repenting him of the great Scandal he had been guilty of, gave himself up to a retir'd and exemplary Life, applying himself wholly to the Service of God, and to the Salvation of the Souls of Mankind. As a Penance for his publick and scandalous Sins, he put on the under Habit of a *Carthusian* Monk, which he continues still to wear under his own Cloaths, and ever since that time he has led a most austere Life, eating nothing but Herbs and Roots. The Prince of *Conti* being edified with his exemplary Life, recommended him with great earnestness to Cardinal *Mazarin*, who being unwilling at that time to give any disgust to the said Prince, made him be declared Bishop of *Grenoble* in *Dauphiny*, where he has continu'd always to be a Favourer of *Jansenism*, notwithstanding that he has still led there an Apostolical Life, preaching continually, in which he has a very great Talent, and being constant in Prayer, Fasting, Discipline, and other rigorous Penances.

The Fame of this his exemplary Life having reach'd the Ears of *Innocent* the XIth, he was immediately taken so much into Favour by *Monsignor Favoriti*, that he wrote to him, to acquaint him that it would be necessary for him to send some Confident or other to *Rome*, the better to lay down Projects for his Advantage. Upon this he immediately dispatched the Bishop of *Crosta*, who is now Bishop of *Ivrea*, and was then called by the Name of Abbot *Labert*, and serv'd him as his Vicar in *Chambery*, his Diocess in *Savoy*. This Abbot *Labert* being a cunning and wise Man, immediately perswaded the Pope, that Bishop Ca-

mus was a Favourer of all his Maxims for the Advantage of the See of *Rome*; for which he was persecuted by the Court of *France*, which traduced him as being an Abbettor of the discontented Clergy of that Kingdom, who unwillingly submitted to the Reforms made by that King, as being contrary to the Liberty of their own Sentiments. He afterwards insinuated himself into the Confidence of *Monsignor Favoriti*, who by his means gave the Pope to understand, that all *Camus's* Relations in *France* were ruin'd, because he had refused to approve of the pretended Regale, and to subscribe the detestable Propositions of the Clergy of *France*, in their scandalous Assembly held at *Paris* in the Year 1682.

Besides, this Vicar in sounding forth the Praises of his Bishop, made a great shew of his moral Virtues without any mixture of Vanity. He procur'd likewise Letters to be written from all his Diocesans, in which, some call'd the Bishop *Father of the Poor*, that gave away all his Revenue in Alms; others commending him for his careful visiting of the Sick, the Hospitals, and the Pilgrims. Others again added in his Favour, that he was diligent in comforting and assisting Persons on their Death Bed, in exhorting the Whores to amendment of Life, and Sinners to Repentance. The said Vicar likewise laid before the Pope, how his Bishop had in such a manner reform'd the Abuses of his Diocess, that he himself with a singular Charity went about instructing the Children, and the Country People in the Precepts of the Decalogue, and all the other Duties of our holy Religion. In short, he cried him up for a holy Zealot, and for being such in reality what he outwardly appeared. He is highly
learned

learned in Ecclesiastical Matters, well bred, efficacious, and most generous.

The Pope having sent the Abbot *Labert* back again to *Grenoble*, to get privately some Information of what was carrying on at *Paris* to the Prejudice of the Pope's Authority; before he return'd to *Rome* he feign'd himself disgusted with his own Bishop, upon the account of some private Interest, for which he declar'd he would have recourse to the Pope, as he did. When he came to *Rome*, he lodg'd in the House of Mr. *Bona* a Speditionary, whom he perswaded to believe this his feign'd recourse, with design that he might publish it among those of the *French* Nation, and write it to *Paris*; which hapned accordingly with a wonderful Effect. For the Ministers of his most Christian Majesty egg'd him on more and more against *Camus*, and he promis'd to them to do him all the disservice he could, and yet at the same time he spake altogether in his Favour to the Pope, who in his first Promotion made him a Cardinal. But notwithstanding all his great personal Qualities, and the high Encomiums given him by others, he soon made his Creator repent of having advanced him to the Purple, he proving ungrateful to him, and joyn-ing with his most Christian Majesty, as is already mention'd.

However, if this Cardinal made a great Figure in the last Conclave, he will make a much greater in the next, not only because of his Qualities already mention'd, and of his being of a quick and ready Apprehension, but likewise because he is in great Esteem at the Court of *France*, as also because many of the Zealots, whom he deluded in the last Conclave by his treacherous and double

double Dealings, are dead, as *Franzoni*, *Conti*, *Barbarigo*, *Goes*, *Denoff*, *Caraffa*, *Corfi*, and *Agbirre*; and *Salazar* is at a great distance, and will not in all Appearance come any more to *Rome*. Besides, the King of *France* having sent hither for his Ambassador an *Italian*, with particular View, that no one might negotiate with him without the Knowledge of the other *French* Cardinals, they being Competitors among themselves, and every one of them aiming at some particular thing; and likewise that he might not seem wholly to mistrust them; the Design of the Court being to procure the Exaltation of a *Genoese* to be Pope, with which Republick the oldest *French* Cardinals are in no good Correspondence, they having formerly shew'd themselves Enemies to it, when his most Christian Majesty entertain'd Sentiments altogether prejudicial to that Republick. So that in this manner every Cardinal of the *French* Nation having the Conveniency of treating with the Prince of *Monaco*, without prejudicing his Majesty's Service by their own private Concerns; there is none of them who can more readily expect to be intrusted and employed than *Camus*, he not being mistrusted by any Cardinal (some Zealots only excepted,) and much less by a *Genoese*, he having found means to reconcile himself to *Negroni*.

He keeps a close Correspondence at *Paris*, and even at the Court, with the mighty *Madam Maintenon*, with the great Minister *Pompe*, and with Father *La Chaise* the Jesuite, the King's Confessor, with whom there is no Party prevails so much as that already mention'd, which is the most hidden, and the strongest, and is call'd by the Name of *Pure Zeal*.
Here

Here at *Rome* he has likewise renewed his Correspondence with several Zealots, and has found means, by his insinuating and flattering ways, to get into Favour with some of those whom he deluded in the last Conclave; some of them being ignorant of his past Deceit, and others afraid of his Revenge, according to that of *Tacitus*, *Sacrificandum Diis malis ne noceant*; or as the Gloss has it, *ut minus noceant*.

THE
LIFE
OF

Michael Radziouski,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Poland* the 15th of *October* 1644, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the 2d of *September* 1686.

It is but little Good that can be said of this Cardinal, he not having been known here at *Rome*, except for his lewd Life, he having frequented more the Conversations of Women than the Congregations of Cardinals. In these he did not know what to do, for want of Application to the Business laid before the Congregations the few times that he assisted at them; whereas in the others, he having known but too well how to perform his Part, went away from hence mark'd with two woful Remembrances in his Groin of the Bawdy House he haunted. In his younger Days he was altogether miserable, and quite destitute of all manner of Subsistence, his Father's Estate having been confiscated by King *John Casimir*, and the Republick of *Poland*, as being Author of the
known

known Rebellion, when he brought in the *Swedes* to the Ruine and Desolation of that Kingdom. When King *John Sobieski* was exalted to the Throne, he taking Compassion of the Misery of this his young Relation, who seem'd to be virtuously inclin'd, made him Canon of *Warsaw*; and finding him to be a Man of Reading, of Parts, and of a learned Conversation, he gave him at last the Bishoprick of *Chiovia*, and within a little time after, that other considerable Bishoprick of *Warmia*, with Leave to retain the other Church, altho' incompatible together; and to assist him yet more, he made him Vice-Chancellor of the Kingdom.

He is very well read in many Sciences, but more especially well versed in the Classical Learning, in History, in Geography, and in the Interests of State. He speaks and writes fluently *Polish*, *Latin*, *French*, and *Italian*, as also a little *High Dutch*. He is so generous, that notwithstanding the Miseries he was brought up in, he has always spent his whole Ecclesiastical Revenues in keeping up and adorning the Fabrick of his Churches, and especially in the War against the *Turk*, carrying very often his Money to the Pope's Nuncio for that Effect. *Innocent* the XIth being inform'd of this, he was so well satisfied with *Radziowski's* Generosity, that he resolv'd to make him a Cardinal, which he afterwards did in the Promotion he made for the Crowns, naming this Cardinal for *Poland*, but without the Circumstances requir'd by the Laws of the Kingdom. For this Reason he met with great Opposition from the Republick, which was fomented by the Crown of *France*, that Crown being disgusted because his Holiness would not give that Cardinal's Cap to the Bishop of *Beauvais*, now

Cardinal *Janson*, and that only because he was a *French* Man, altho' he had had the Nomination of King *John Sobieski*, from the time that he was exalted to the Throne.

The Pope on this Occasion persisted firmly in his Resolution, not to give the Cardinal's Cap for the Crown of *Poland*, but to one that was either a Subject of the Kingdom, or at least of some indifferent Nation, that he might have so just a Pretext for excluding this *French* Bishop, who had incurr'd the notorious Censures, for having assisted at the famous Assembly of Bishops, which was held in the House of the Archbishop of *Paris*, and where they decreed Articles contrary to the Rights of the Holy See. The Pope was the more stedfast in this his Resolution, because he was inform'd by the Abbot *Denhoff*, whom he secretly employ'd as his Spy in *Poland*, that that King would be fully as well satisfied with *Radziowski's* Promotion, he being the Son of a near Kinswoman of his own, and moreover his own Creature, whom he had loaded so much with Benefits. It was likewise this Abbot that discover'd to the Pope the Friendship contracted by his own Sovereign *John Sobieski* with the *French*, which was the Reason why that Prince would never move one Step farther against the *Turk*, after he had rais'd the Siege of *Vienna*, which glorious Enterprize he undertook at the Persuasion of his Heroical Queen, who put him upon it both out of her great Zeal for Religion, and Hatred to the *French*, because they had refused to make her Father Duke and Peer of *France*. The Service which the Abbot *Denhoff* did the Pope on these Occasions, was a sufficient Motive with his Holiness to make him likewise a Cardinal, in Despite of the King of *Poland*. But this
Abbot

Abbot was no sooner promoted, than he united himself with that King against the Pope, in the same manner as Cardinal *Camus* did with the King of *France*.

The King of *Poland* having made some Opposition, that he might keep a fair Outside with *France*, acquiesced at last in the Promotion of the new Cardinal *Radziouski*, nay, even advanced him very soon to the Archbishoprick of *Gnesna*, which, altho' it is not of so great an Income as the rich Bishoprick of *Warmia*, yet because of the great Consequences which attend the Primacy of the Kingdom, it is of much greater Value. However, the King heap'd upon him so many Church Benefices, that they not only exceeded the Revenue of that most Opulent Church, but even of all the three Bishopricks put together. All these his great Incomes encouraged and assisted him in his Generosity, he having built many Churches and Convents, giving them all sufficient Endowments; but there is one more particularly which he has founded for the Mission at *Lowicz*, the Residence of the Primate of the Kingdom, Archbishop of *Gnesna*, which is most stately. He has contributed to the founding of two Convents of Capuchins, which Order was not heretofore in *Poland*. He has provided anew the greatest part of the Churches of his Diocese with fine Robes and Utensils for the Divine Service. He has given considerable Sums towards the Fabrick of the Monasteries for the *Carmelite* Friars, and for the Mission of *Warsaw*; and he has furnish'd all his own Palaces and Houses with Moveables after the *Italian* Way, as Pictures, Statues, and other Ornaments of great Splendor and Magnificence.

This Cardinal being greatly effeminate in his Temper, fell some Years ago into the Hands of

Madam *Sobianski*, (so called from the Surname of her Husband) who was only a poor, miserable, ordinary Gentlewoman, but he has heap'd upon her so great Treasures, that now her House is nothing inferior to the wealthiest House that is. By virtue of his Primacy he declared the Husband of his Sultaness Master of his Household, that is, Marshal of his Court, which Office carries along with it the Dignity of Senator, as being Castellan of *Lancisa*, with which familiar Charge he opened a way to himself to keep his Mistress near to his Person, giving thereby great Scandal, and occasioning yet greater Murmuring, he being quite infatuated with her, and insensible of his own Discredit. She is neither handsome nor young, nor of a free easie Carriage, neither is she well-bred, genteel, or obliging, and much less has she any thing of a good Mien. On the contrary, she is somewhat old, proud, coarse, homely, and contemptible, and yet she leads this Cardinal by the Nose at such a rate, that she not only does not suffer him to speak to any Body, except it be in her Presence, but she does not even let him go by himself to any Business wharever, not so much as to the Functions of the Court, or of the Church, on which Days she goes along with him scandalously in his Coach, even when he is going to celebrate Mass, and officiate Pontifically.

Moreover, she will not let him open his own Letters, but she must first see them, and then she gives him such of them to read as she pleases. Besides, the Cardinal cannot dispose of any Charge, nor grant the least Favour, or Justice, without her; and she is so absolute Mistress of of his Pocket, that he cannot now give any Alms, but what must pass thro' her Hands. Farther, he lets himself be dress'd and undress'd, nay, even
fed

fed at Table like a Child by this Sorceress of his, which helps to make People believe that she has bewitch'd him; for else it does not seem possible that any reasonable Man should so abominably abandon his free Will, and deprive himself entirely of the Use of his Reason, as this Cardinal does.

This Mistress *Sobianski* has a Son of about Twenty Years Old, and altho' she bore him Two Years before she prostituted herself to this Cardinal, yet she makes him believe that he is his Son, and has persuaded him to make over all his Estate to this Young Man upon that Account, and this to his great Derision, every Body being sensible of the Falshood of this Impostor: And altho' he has been advertiz'd of this Cheat by several of his Friends, yet he'll give Credit to nothing but what his own *Circe* tells him, and for that Reason breeds up this Young Lad as his own Son, pleasing himself with his own Delusion; and he has the Son's Picture hung up before his Bed, which he is constantly admiring and gazing on when the Young Man is absent.

He is a genteel Young Man, and of a goodly Presence. His Mother was gained by the Abbot *Polignac*, the *French* Ambassador, who promised her immense Treasures, and to make her Son be declared by his most Christian Majesty Duke and Peer of *France*, if she would procure the Prince of *Conti* to be elected King of *Poland*. This was Motive enough for this covetous and despotical Lady to oblige the Primate, her Lover, to use his utmost Endeavours for that Effect. The good Cardinal, immediately on the Death of King *John Sobieski*, dispatched this Young Man to *France*, giving him the Character of Envoy Extraordinary from the Republick of *Poland* to his most Christian

ftian Majesty, by whom, and by the Prince of *Conti*, as also by all the Court, he was so much carels'd, that when he return'd to *Poland* he engaged his Mother, and by Consequence the P^rimate, more deeply in the *French* Interest, obliging by that means the P^rimate to exclude from the Succession to the Throne, the Sons of the King his Benefactor, which was the Reason that the Elector of *Saxony*, coming in for his third Share, carried away the Prize from them all, and is now King under the Name of *Augustus*.

Every one knows what Opposition this Cardinal made to the new King, even after he was Crown'd. And he has shew'd a great deal of Courage, Constancy and Undauntedness in resisting all the Blows of his Enemies, only to please his Sorcerers. On that Occasion he lavish'd away immense Quantities of Gold, Silver, and Jewels, and the Crown of *France* is still indebted to him for vast Sums with which he assisted the Abbot *Polignac*, in that Competition to the Crown of *Poland*. Here in *Rome* he exercised his Generosity, particularly towards the Women, covering with Sables a great many of the ordinary sort, besides several Ladies of greater Note.

He continues still to live merrily, as he has always done hitherto; he is a Man of a generous Soul, genteel in his Carriage, and of a quiet sweet Temper. He is well grounded in Learning, and would be so in Politicks too, were it not that he is so bewitch'd with his *Megera*, that he has lost with the freedom of his Will, even his very Intellect. He is a good Companion, because he is given to Divertisements; but he is a bad Friend to his Friends, because he does not keep a Secret, nor observe the Laws of Friendship with any. He loved Vocal and Instrumental Musick, Balls,
Matches

Matches for taking the Air in Gardens, and was also a Lover of Feasts, (altho' no great Eater) and of all sort of Pastime. But now that he is greatly troubled with the Dropfie, he abstains from all these Divertisements much against his Humour, and the more, because he is hinder'd from them by his over-powerful Sovereign Lady. For which Reason we may apply to him what Tacitus said of Seneca, *Fuit illi Viro ingenium Amenum, & Temporis illius Auribus accommodatum.*

He died at Dantzick the 13th of October 1705.

THE
LIFE
OF

Peter Matthew Petrucci,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Fesi*, the 29th of *May*, 1636. and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the Xth. the 2d. of *September*, 1686.

The great Applause which this Cardinal met with, upon his Promotion to the sacred Purple, is hardly to be believ'd; for it was the general Opinion of every body, that, at some time or other he could not fail of being *St. Peter's* Successor. But he soon lost his Credit in the World, by the Process carry'd on against him in the Inquisition, for being a Quietist. Nevertheless, I look upon him to be a holy Man at the bottom, and that tho' he has been deceiv'd himself through Error of Judgment, yet that he never has led others astray out of Malice. He being ignorant in Divinity, which he never studied, and yet pretending to dictate magisterially, for having read only some Book, which perhaps he did not understand, made him fall into several equivocal Expressions in some of his Writings, which he caused to be printed, and which were prohibited.

When

When he came to *Rome* for the Cardinal's Cap, Process was serv'd upon him in the Inquisition, and he was afterwards absolv'd by *Innocent XI.* his Creator, in the Presence of Cardinal *Cybo*, Dean of the sacred College, and of Cardinal *Ottoboni* Subdean. *Ottoboni* having succeeded to *Innocent* the XIth in the Papacy, under the Name of *Alexander* the VIIIth, would needs have *Petruc-ci's* Process revis'd, in order to deprive him of his Cardinal's Dignity; which he would have certainly done, if at first Cardinal *Lauria* had not stood up vigorously in his Defence, and if afterwards the Pope's Death had not prevented him. That great Pope, at the time he was Cardinal, had concerted this matter with all the Members of the Inquisition; because contrary to its Authority, and indeed without any such Example before, *Petruc-ci's* Absolution had been given him in private, whereas it ought to have been done in publick, his Offence having been too notorious. When *Innocent XII.* was exalted to the Throne, *Petruc-ci* was, by his special Order, sent back again, for the honour of the sacred Purple, to his Bishoprick of *Fesi*; where he was receiv'd with such Acclamations of Joy by the People of his Diocess, that they made even triumphal Arches for him, singing Hymns of Praise, and applying to him the Anthem, *Ecce Sacerdos magnus, qui in diebus suis placuit Deo, & inventus est justus.* And altho' this was done without the Cardinal's Order, yet here at *Rome* it was thought to be with his Consent, since he might have hindred it, and did not; for which reason, all the blame of it was laid at his door, and he was suppos'd to have had a Vanity and Complacency in such a Reception.

It was upon this account, that many Cardinals, who were Followers of the Maxims of *Alexander* the VIII, continu'd still to prosecute *Petrucci*, that they might get him declar'd incapable of having any Voice, whether active or passive, in case of a Conclave, since this Pope *, being his great Friend, would not consent to the depriving him of his Cardinal's Dignity; which indeed he could not possibly do, because of the Bulls to the contrary, he having already been absol'd by Pope *Innocent* the XIth. But notwithstanding of this, the Cardinals that were Members of the Inquisition, gave Orders to the Canon *John Dominick Rainaldi*, late Fiscal of the said Tribunal, that when Cardinal *Petrucci* should come to *Rome*, after the Death of this Pope, he should go to *Jesi*, and there put an end to the Process already commenced against him, by the deceas'd Cardinal *Anthony Bichi*, Bishop of *Osimo*, as being the Cardinal that liv'd nearest to him.

This Cardinal was afterwards prosecuted on account of his Female Devotos, whom he called *Canonesses*, and, it's said, made them wear the Tonsure. He was likewise accus'd of frequenting too often the Monastery belonging to the bare-footed Nuns of *St. Teresa*, in which he preach'd up the Molinist Doctrine of praying in quiet and tranquillity, to which he gave the Name of *Holy Repose*. And it is said, that the greatest part of these Nuns were infected with this Delusion, and that the Cardinal had laid his Hands a little too familiarly upon more than one of them. Besides, he kept some young Men, and Women, in a Country

* *Innocent* XII.

Country House he had not far from the Place of his Residence, whither he went often to divert himself. All these matters appear in the Cardinal's Process, by the Declaration of a certain She-bigot, call'd by the Name of *Frances*, whom the Cardinal had many and many a time instructed in this matter of the *holy Repose*. She confess'd freely every thing the Cardinal had taught her, and said moreover, that he had attempted to lie with her in an unnatural way.

Besides, a great many other She-Devotos were well affected to this Cardinal, who own'd publicly, that they receiv'd Instruction from him, and that he allow'd them a Monthly Pension of five and forty Giulioes *, which the Cardinal was wont to distribute to them with his own Hand. This Delusion began to spread it self so far, that many other Women gave themselves up to this Life, being continually in Prayer, and enjoying the *holy Peace*, and the *holy Repose*, as they call'd it, exactly in the same manner, as it was recommended by that wicked wretch *Molinos*, of whom this Cardinal was a Disciple, having been instructed by him, and having receiv'd from him many of his Doctrines in writing. Notwithstanding the strict Inquiry made into this Cardinal's Life, by many rigorous Processes, yet he has been always found innocent, as to any thing of Sensuality, and Covetousness; which are the two Poles, on which the Malice of Mankind, and especially of the Quietists, usually turns. Nevertheless, because of the Scandal which some of his Disciples had given, the Inquisition oblig'd the Pope to recall him, and

to

* About one Pound, four Shillings, *English Money*.

to make him renounce his Bishoprick; that his Female Devotos, and his other Disciples might have no farther hopes of seeing him any more in those Parts.

This Cardinal is born of mean Parents, but he has always appear'd to be of an exemplary Life. When he was yet young, he enter'd himself, in his own Country, among the Fathers of the Oratory, of the Foundation of *St. Philip Neri*; where he liv'd to the great Edification of every Body, applying himself wholly to Works of Piety and Devotion. It was at the Request of Cardinal *Cybo*, that he was made Bishop of *Fefi*, after the Death of his own Brother, to whom his Eminence had resign'd that Bishoprick. It was likewise the vast Commendation which this Cardinal gave of him to *Innocent* the XIth, representing him as a Man of great Sanctity of Life, that determined his Holiness to promote him to the Cardinalship, which he did very soon after. He then took the Arms of the noble House of *Petrucchi* in *Sienna*, and desir'd to be admitted among the Nobility of that Country, and to be aggregated to the said Family; which was granted him as a Reward of his supposed Sanctity, and by the express Order of the great Duke. After the Death of Cardinal *Azzolini*, Protector of the Natives of the *Marca d'Ancona*, and of several Colleges, and Churches belonging to that Province, this Cardinal ought to have succeeded to him in the Protection of all these Places. But he was chose only Protector of some of them, Cardinal *Carpegna* having taken Possession of the others, who, upon this occasion, gave himself out to be an Inhabitant of the *Marca d'Ancona*, altho' he was truly of the Dutchy of *Urbino*, under the Pretext of having I know not what Possessions in that Province. This wrong he suffer'd,

suffer'd, because of his too great Ambition, and of his being too busie a body, intruding himself always into every thing. Altho' it is true, he does it with such an ill Grace, that the being concern'd in business does not turn much to his Credit, he flying into a Passion out of meer Caprice, and sometimes for such unreasonable things, that they make him often prevaricate in his Duty.

The Company of the blessed Annunciation can bear Witness to this, because of the trouble he gave them concerning the Dowrys they are intrusted with; and if they had not prevailed with the Pope to recall the Delegation, he had done them Prejudice enough. The Fraternity of St. *Katherine* of *Sienna* suffer'd a great deal, by his annulling the Decrees of Cardinal *Colloredo*, who was their Visitor, altho' they were most just in themselves, and approved of by the Congregation for Visitations, and even by the Pope himself, because of a former Relapse of that Fraternity into its ancient Confusions, and Scandals. Besides, had it not been for the most worthy and charitable Father *Diaz*, a *Spaniard*, and a Franciscan Fryar, he had destroy'd the holy, and most exemplary Fraternity of the Cross-bearers, altho' the most useful of any to the Salvation of our Souls. For altho' all the other Fraternities instruct us to live well, yet this is the only one that is founded to assist us to die well.

This Cardinal is obstinate, malicious, given to lying, a Dissembler, a Breaker of his Word, and bound by no tie of Friendship; as appear'd by his disrespectful Carriage to Cardinal *Colloredo*, who was one of his greatest Friends on the occasion already mention'd. Nevertheless, he is given to Prayer, and to lead an austere Life, eating constantly with his whole Family in the Refectory,
as

as he did before he was Cardinal, among the Fathers of the Oratory. He expresses great Devotion in the Churches, and carries himself with great Modesty in all places. He seems to be humble in outward Appearance, but does not fail to exert any the least Authority, he thinks belongs to him by virtue of his Legateship. He has however carried himself wisely in many of his Accusations; and he is generally reputed to be prudent, but not very learned, except in cases of Conscience, which he studied from his Youth, in order to qualify himself for being a Confessor. He compos'd some Sacred Poems that are very indifferent. He is charitable, and zealous; but most indiscreet, rigorous and arbitrary. Altho' he has been prosecuted for *Quietism*, yet he has disturb'd the Quiet of many, by his Innovations, and Reforms; his Chastisements, and his excessive Severity. *Quare homines, in the Opinion of the Politician, & specialiter juvenes, aliquando pœnâ magis accenduntur, permittenda itaque illis quædam.*

He died the 5th of July, 1701.

THE
L I F E
O F

Peter Salazar,
A Fryar.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Spain* the 29th of *April* 1626, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the 2d of *September* 1686.

He is a Monk of the Order of the Holy Trinity of the Redemption, of which religious Order, very illustrious in *Spain*, when Father *Assenzio* was made General, he made choice of *Salazar* to be his Secretary, and gave him the most considerable Offices in the Order; which he having exercised with great Applause, *Assenzio* procur'd him to be chosen his Successor in the Generalship. His Benefactor, who was made Bishop of *Chaen*, and President of *Castille*, having introduced him into the first Families of *Madrid*, got him likewise to be declared Preacher to the King; in the discharge of which Office, he was greatly applauded by the Court, because he knew well how to adapt the matter of his Sermons, to the Accidents that fell out every Day. By which means he got to be so in vogue,

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that

that always when he mounted the Pulpit, the King's Chappel was crowded with Persons that had flock'd to hear his political Stings, and his biting Morality.

Upon Occasion of the Fall, first of the Queen-Mother, and afterwards of the Favourite *Valenzuola*, Marquis of *Villa Siarra*, *Don John* of *Austria* having succeeded in the King's Favour, and he being a great Enemy of *Salazar's*, and of all his Protectors, the said Father *Salazar* united himself with the Marquis of *Manzera*, first Steward of the Queen's Household, and they joyntly together compos'd the famous Book against his Highness, which was afterwards call'd by the Name of *The Poison of Don John*; which Blemish in his Reputation wounded him so deeply in the Heart that he died of it, being almost in Despair. The Duke of *Medina Celi* succeeded to *Don John* in the King's Favour, but he falling likewise very soon into Disgrace, the Government of that Monarchy fell to the Count of *Oropesa*, altho' without the Title of Favourite; because he was the Person who a little before had advis'd the King not to declare any one his Favourite in that Degree; and this he did, to supplant him who was in Possession of the King's Favour, and had the Government in his Hands, that he might afterwards enjoy the Effects of it, and succeed to the Authority.

Salazar, by this piece of Service, got greatly into Favour with the Enemies of *Don John*, who were the most powerful Grandees of the Nation, with whom he concert'd the Fall of Father *Afsenzio*, his only Benefactor, who in the time that he was in a manner sure of the King's Nomination to the Cardinalship, was forced, instead of that, to retire to his Bishoprick of *Chaen*. At that
time

time Father *Salazar* hapned to be made first Bishop of *Salamanca*, and then in a little time after, he procur'd the King's Nomination to the Cardinal's Cap, by the Favour of the Count of *Oropesa*, who had been some time before made President of *Castille*, in the room of the forementioned Father *Affenzio*, Bishop of *Chaen*.

The News of this gave great Disgust to many Persons of Quality, who with great earnestness were suing for the King's Nomination to that Cardinal's Cap, and particularly the Duke of *Isca*, the Duke of *Ferrandina*, *Don Francis Borgia* Son to the Duke of *Gandia*, and *Don Alfonso d'Aghilar* of *Cordoua*, who was lately made Cardinal, in the last Promotion for the Crowns. And altho' all the said Pretenders used all possible means to hinder him from the said Nomination, yet it was not possible for them to do it, because of the great Power of the Countess of *Oropesa*, who had chosen him for her greatest Confident, nay, for her Confessor; and she made him be declared Bishop of *Cordoua*, in spite of so many others who were aspiring at that most opulent Church.

As soon as he was promoted to the Purple, he dignified several of his Relations with some Crosses, notwithstanding of his mean Extraction, which at that time he made pass for noble by precarious Proofs, he assuming to himself the Merits of the true House of *Salazar*. Upon the Death of *Innocent* the XIth, he came softly, and at his own ease to *Rome*, where he arrived after the Exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, from whose Hands he received the Cardinal's Hat. By the Favour of *Oropesa* he obtained the Character of the King's Ambassador, endeavouring to undermine in that Charge the Duke of *Medina Celi*, who

representing to the King this Cardinal's Impetunencies, and the Disservices he had done to the Crown in this last Conclave, procured from his Majesty, not only the confirmation of his own Embassy, but likewise a Letter from the King to deliver to the said Cardinal, in which his Majesty disapproving of his Conduct, and even expressing that he was ill served by him, commanded him for that Reason to depart immediately for *Spain*, which he did without delay; and he was no sooner arrived in *Allicant* than he found there an Order commanding him not to go nigh the Court, but to retire to his Bishoprick of *Cordoua*. There he lives at present, altogether intent on heaping up Wealth to enrich his Nephews, altho' he spends enough out of Ostentation, in Buildings, and in Alms. He is resolved never to come any more to *Rome*, and makes his Confinement easie by applying himself to the good Government of his Flock.

He has had the Reputation of being a great Man, rather for Politicks than Learning; altho' he is a good Divine, and yet a greater Moralist: He is zealous, and in this last Conclave shew'd himself to be much more a Zealot than a *Spaniard*; altho' indeed in both the Factions he made but a sorry Figure. He makes profession of great Integrity; but his Ingratitude to his Benefactor has quite discredited him, and has moreover got him the Character of a Hypocrite. He presumes too much of himself, and is most obstinate in his own Opinion. He refused to comply with the King's Order in coming to *Rome* immediately after his Promotion, but put it off till after the Exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, notwithstanding he had been commanded by the King to go sooner, because of the great want the Crown had of Cardinals

dinals at this Court. And when he set out on his Journey for *Rome*, it was not so much out of Obedience to the King's Command, as in view of his own Interest; he aspiring at the Embassy of this Court, which made him come at that time to receive the Cardinal's Hat.

Neither would he in the least obey the Congregation of Rites and Ceremonies, which commanded him not to wear the red Habit after his Promotion, but to put on white, conform to the Habit of his own Order. Nay, in this he even disobey'd the Pope himself, who enjoyn'd him to observe the Bulls and sacred Constitutions of the Popes; but till he came to *Rome* there was no persuading him to put on any other Habit than what he pleased himself. At first, he refused to put in Execution divers Edicts and Decrees of the Congregations of Bishops and the Regular Clergy, and of that appointed to explain the Council of *Trent*. In fine, this Cardinal is a Man altogether Headstrong, and altho' he is a Fryar, yet it is certain, that he does not observe the Vow of Obedience, being ignorant of the holy Saying of St. *Augustin*, *Melior est obedientia, quam victima*.

THE
L I F E

O F

William Furstembergh,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Germany* the 4th of *December* 1629, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth, the 2d of *September* 1685.

This Cardinal's Character is so universally well known, that there is no great occasion for me to enlarge much on it here. His bold Attempts in favour of the Crown of *France*, have gain'd him no great Reputation in the World, and have expos'd him to the highest Displeasure of his Imperial Majesty, who, upon this account, caused him to be prosecuted for Felony, because of the Sovereign Dominion he has over this Cardinal's Principality. It was this Cardinal, according to the common Report, that fomented in *Germany*, and *Hungary*, the known Rebellions, that have made so great a Noise in our Days, and for which the Count of *Sdrino*, the Marquis *Frangipani*, and the Prince *Nadasti* were beheaded,

headed, and many more of their wicked Accomplices put to death.

It is he likewise, that is accused of poysoning the Imperial Family, and particularly all the Sons of the Empress *Claude*, second Wife to the present Emperor *Leopold*; it having been suspected, that the Womb of the said Empress was poyson'd by a Midwife, whom *Furstembergh* had gain'd to commit that abominable Villany. His high Birth, and his Quality of Prince of the Empire, having given him an Opportunity of entertaining a vast Correspondence over all *Germany*, he was judged to be the main Instrument of corrupting the Fidelity of many of the Emperor's chief Ministers, having gain'd them over to his wicked Ends, by the force of Gold, of great Pensions, and yet greater Promises; as is particularly believed of the late Prince of *Baden*, who was President of War. And in fine, all the Trouble and Mischief that happened at that time in *Germany*, and in *Hungary*, was all laid at the Door of this Cardinal; altho' I am apt to think that he has been wrong'd in it, it being impossible for me to believe, that any Christian, and especially one of such a high Rank and Condition in the World, cou'd ever be capable of committing so much Villany and Treachery.

It is certain, that for the Crime of High Treason he was put to the Ban of the Empire, and imprison'd on the same account, as I shall relate more fully hereafter, it being at present necessary to premise some things for the better understanding this short Account of his Life. There are two Families very considerable in *Germany*, that have the same Surname of *Furstembergh*, but have no Relation one to the other. The one is in *Westphalia*; from whence proceeded the late Bishop

of *Munster* and *Paderborn*, who had been Gentleman of the Bed-chamber, and a great Confident of *Alexander* the VIIth's. It was this Bishop that erected the splendid Monument in *Santa Maria Maggiore*, to the Memory of *Monsignor Favoriti*, and that in token of the cordial Friendship, and great Esteem he had for so great a *Virtuoso*. The other of the said two Houses of *Furstembergh* was persecuted on account of the Catholick Religion, which that Family would needs always maintain and support, at what cost soever, in *Saxony*; from whence it was afterwards transplanted to *Suabia* about thirty Years ago. The Head of this Family, by the Favour of the Elector of *Bavaria*, was receiv'd into the number of Princes, and admitted to share of the greatest Prerogatives of the Circle of *Suabia*, where at present he enjoys a free State, with the Title of Prince, and preeminence of *Landgrave* of *Furstembergh*, which is of no small Consideration.

The Grandfather, the Father, and the eldest Brother of this Cardinal, have for a long time enjoyed the Office of High Chamberlain to three Electors of *Bavaria* successively. So that it was no difficult matter for the Father of this Cardinal, to place his two younger Sons in the Family of *Maximilian Henry*, Elector of *Cologne*, who was Uncle by the Father's side, to the two Brothers, the present Electors of *Cologne* and *Bavaria*. The eldest of these two *Furstemburghs*, by the Interest of Prince *Maximilian Henry* his Master, was chosen Bishop and Prince of *Strasburg*; and when he went to the Government of that Church, he got his younger Brother, the present Cardinal *Furstembergh*, to succeed him in his Post of High-Chamberlain to *Maximilian Henry*, at that time Elector of *Cologne*.

In

Cardinal FURSTEMBERGH. 137

In the Exercise of the said Office, *Furstembergh* made himself wholly Arbiter of the Will of his Master, whom he persuaded to enter into Alliance with *France*, and to subject himself totally to the Will of that Crown. At the Request of the *French King*, *Furstembergh* was named by the Elector of *Cologne*, who was likewise Bishop and Prince of *Liege*, to be his Plenipotentiary to the Peace that was then treating at *Cologne*, where he was, by Order of the Emperor, arrested by the Marquis *Obizzi* of *Ferrara*, a Colonel in the Imperial Service, by whom he was conducted into *Austria*, and there kept Prisoner. Upon this, the *French King*, with all the Princes concerned in this Assembly, made a great Clamour, saying, that in the Person of this Prince of *Furstembergh* the Law of Nations was violated. And *Clement* the Xth did likewise engage himself in this Affair, pretending that *Furstembergh* being a Deacon, and Canon of *Cologne*, the Ecclesiastical Immunities were thereby violated; for which reason great Application was made to the Court of *Vienna*, for the release of the Prisoner, by the deceased Cardinal *Albrizzi*, at that time Nuncio from the Holy See. The *French King* seeing that this Affair of the Prince of *Furstembergh*'s Imprisonment was not brought to a speedy Tryal, but put off from time to time, because of the excessive Clemency of his Imperial Majesty, engaged himself still more warmly to have the Prisoner set at Liberty, which he at last obtain'd, contrary to the expectation of every body; the Emperor having consented to release the Prince of *Furstembergh*, and to restore him into the Hands of the Elector of *Cologne*, his own Prince; after that his Imperial Majesty had suffer'd the Congress for the Peace to be removed from *Cologne* to *Nime-*
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guen. Upon Occasion of these Disputes there were many Books and Writings published by both Parties.

About this time the Bishop of *Strasburg*, elder Brother to this Cardinal hapning to die, the Cardinal was, by the help of *France*, promoted to that Bishoprick, and to the great Abbey of *Estable* and *Malmady*, (both which have a secular Principality annex'd to them) as likewise to other considerable Benefices. But he never went to reside at any of them, keeping always close by the side of the Elector his Master; who was pleased, after that this Prince of *Furstembergh* was promoted to the Cardinal's Dignity, at the nomination of the Crown of *France*, to name him his Coadjutor in the Bishoprick of *Cologne*. However, this nomination to the Coadjutorship had no Effect, because of the Opposition the Cardinal met with from the Imperialists.

The Elector of *Cologne* being dead, Cardinal *Furstembergh* could not obtain from the Pope a Brief of *Eligibility*, without which he could not be chosen Archbishop of *Cologne*, he being already Bishop of *Strasburg*. And therefore he resolv'd to concur by way of *Postulation*, in which he could not succeed, because of the Canonical Election of the present Elector, Prince *Josepb Clement*, Brother to the Elector of *Bavaria*.

Cardinal *Furstembergh*, upon this disappointment, retir'd into *France*, where his most Christian Majesty, among the many demonstrations of his Royal Gratitude to him, gave him the rich Abbey of *St. Germain* in *Paris*. From thence he came to *Rome*, to assist at the Conclave of *Alexander* the VIIIth, where he made but a sorry Figure. And therefore, seeing that he could not tarry here with Honour and Reputation, he return'd

turn'd suddenly to *France*, pretending, for an Excuse of his sudden departure, to have discover'd that the *Germans* were laying Snares for him in *Rome*; which Rumour he industriously caus'd to be spread in all Places. And under this Pretext, he prevail'd with his most Christian Majesty to excuse him from coming to the last Conclave, in which *Innocent* the XIIth, now happily reigning, was exalted to the Throne. He lives at present in great retiredness, in his Abbey of *St. Germain's*, wholly intent on performing Ecclesiastical Functions, and going up and down to all the Churches of *Paris*, wherever there are any Feasts, there to sing high Mass.

He lives with great Splendor, and keeps a good Table every Day, spending profusely; even to that degree, that notwithstanding his most plentiful Revenue, he is daily in danger of dying for Want; he being altogether an Enemy to Frugality or Oeconomy. He has many Sisters married in several of the chief Families of *Germany*; and consequently cannot fail of having a great Tribe of Nephews, many of whom make up the number of his Attendants. But he has one only Niece, who is his Favourite, and disposes absolutely of his Purse and Will.

The Esteem which the deceased *Monsieur de Sion* had for this Cardinal, was the Occasion of the great Affection which his most Christian Majesty took to him, there being no Man alive, that understands better than this Cardinal the Affairs of *Germany*; but he is altogether a Stranger to every thing without that Province. He was, in a great Measure, the true Cause of the Hatred which his most Christian Majesty bears to the Electoral *Palatine* House of *Newburg*; and that because of the Dissensions that had happen'd between

tween them on account of the Restitution of the Dowry, and other Assignments which the Father of this Elector *Palatine* was bound to pay to a Sister of this Cardinal's, who was third Wife to the Grandfather of his present Electoral Highness, by the Father's side,

Cardinal *Furstembergh* did likewise attempt to get himself chosen Bishop of *Liege*; but notwithstanding the great Endeavours which the *French* used in his Favour, he was excluded, and the present Elector of *Cologne* preferred to him.

This Cardinal is otherwise a Gentleman of a great Spirit, of a vast Capacity, and of great Attention. He is thoughtful, penetrating and subtle; he is suspicious and eloquent, but has not much of that Brotherly Charity, which is necessary to a good Ecclesiastick. He does not value himself so much on his quality of a Churchman, as on that of a Politician and a Soldier. He is however very charitable to the Poor, and generous; but he is fantastical and vain in all his Actions.

He has lately procur'd, altho' hitherto without Effect, Cardinal *Bouillon's* Nephew to be named his Coadjutor in the Bishoprick of *Strasburg*. And in all appearance, he will obtain the confirmation of it from this Pope, upon the just Motive of his want of Health; he having had several Fits of an Apoplexy, which have render'd him altogether unfit for Business; and some Days ago he had the Misfortune to be overturn'd in a Coach at *Paris*, which has still weaken'd him more.

Notwithstanding that this Cardinal was born a *German*, yet his own Nation never had a greater Enemy than him; he having always serv'd to blow
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the Coals in all the Troubles of that Country. His Enemies gave out, that he did this to feed his own unquiet natural Temper; and that he imitated the unjust Reproach that is cast upon the Jesuites by the ignorant Vulgar, of their being *no great Friends to their Friends, but violent Enemies to their Enemies*; altho' never with a design to do them any harm. I may therefore say to this Cardinal, in the Words of *Æneas Silvius* my Countryman. *Desuturos alios tibi, si tu aliis non es, & si nos deseris, isti deserent.*

THE

THE
LIFE

OF

Leander Colloredo,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Gorizia* in *Friuli* the 15th of *April* 1643, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the 2d of *September* 1686.

The Veneration and Esteem which Pope *Innocent* the XIth had for the Fathers of the Oratory of *St. Philip Neri*, in whose Conversation he frequently diverted himself while he was Cardinal; and the great Intimacy he had contracted with the late worthy Father *Mariano Sozzini*, made him resolve to raise him to the Purple Dignity. But the said Father's Death having anticipated his Advancement, the Pope named Father *Colloredo* Cardinal in his stead, not only because of his being *Sozzini's* beloved Disciple, but likewise in Recompense of his own exemplary Life, and of his eminent Qualities, having already acquir'd great Renown and Applause by his Discretion, and the extraordinary Civility of his Behaviour, and the Fame of his Merit increasing every Day.

He is descended of one of the principal Families in *Friuli*, and has always been remarkable for
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his great Modesty, and his Angelical Life, for which Reason he was receiv'd by the Fathers of the *Chiesa Nuova* with great Satisfaction. There he prosecuted his Studies, making great Advances in the School Divinity, and in Morality, having likewise a sufficient Knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, of the Canons, and of the Fathers. He is prudent, discreet, humble, self-denied, careless in his outward Appearance, Charitable, and zealous, but withal cunning, sagacious, provident, and most attentive.

He was made Great Penitentiary by the same Pope that created him Cardinal, in the Discharge of which Office he succeeds admirably well, being all Piety, of great Application, and having a Charity not to be parallel'd, assisting not only all the Cardinals on their Death-bed,* but even other Persons of Quality, being indefatigably laborious, long-suffering, and most willing to please all Mankind. He assisted with great Patience *Innocent* the XIth in his last Sickness till after his Death, his Holiness not suffering any other Cardinal near him but him, that he might recommend his Soul into the Hands of his Heavenly Father, which he did with great Charity, and no less Compunction.

In the two last Conclaves he made the greatest Figure in the terrible Faction of the Zealots, among whom he met with a great many Disgusts, not being able to comply with the Interests of them all, who being divided among themselves every one endeavour'd to carry on his own Project. However, at that time he was able at least to satisfy some one of the Parties, because he labour'd for the Benefit of others; but now that, because of his riper Age, he himself stands as fair as any other to be made Pilot of *St. Peter's Vessel*,

fel, he cannot fail to employ all his vigorous Endeavours for his own Behoof, leaving the Care of managing his Interest to some other Zealot whom he can most confide in.

He is tax'd by his Enemies with Ignorance, and with not being totally wise. They have likewise slander'd him, by saying that he impos'd on *Innocent* the XIth, making him believe, that he was composing the Addition and Continuation of the Annals of Cardinal *Baronius*, and of *Rainaldi*; whereas he never durst put Pen to Paper in such a Matter, as being much beyond his Sphere, and yet with the Favour of *Monsignor Casoni* he made the Pope believe it, who, chiefly for this Reason, dignified him with the Purple.

In the full Promotion of Cardinals made by *Alexander* the VIIIth, he disapproved in open Consistory the naming of Cardinal *Fanson*, for having been one of those who in *France* appeal'd to a future Council, upon Occasion of the famous Broil concerning the Excommunication fulminated by *Innocent* the XIth against the Marquis of *Lavardin*, the *French* Ambassador to this Court. In this his bold Contradiction he expected to be back'd by several Zealots, with whom he had first concerted the Matter, but he was wholly disappointed, because those Cardinals would not shew any kind of Dependance on him, he having, out of Ambition of appearing to be the Head of the Party, spoke first, altho' younger than many of the Cardinals of the same Faction, who, taking Snuff at his Forwardness, did not afterwards open their Mouths in the Matter. For this Reason, and for many other known Causes, the Crown of *France* will always be his Enemy, and particularly Cardinal *Fanson*, because it was *Colloredo* that chiefly influenc'd *Innocent* the XIth not to accept his

his Nomination to the Cardinalship that was given him by *Sobieski* King of *Poland*. And in effect, whether it was because of *Colloredo's* Innuations, or for some other Cause, it is certain that the said Pope would never advance him upon that Recommendation, but in his place named Cardinal *Radziouski*.

Cardinal *Panciatichi* oppos'd *Colloredo* openly, because in the last Conclave this latter endeavour'd, and obtain'd to have *Casanatta* excluded from the Papacy, for no other Reason, but because he had discover'd that *Panciatichi* would be his first Minister, and Secretary of State.

As to our noble Sovereigns, (for the Nobility of *Sienna*, notwithstanding the Liberty and Privileges transmitted to them by their Ancestors, may be now reckon'd as it were Subjects) I doubt whether they can be favourable to this Cardinal, because of the Opposition made by him to your Excellency when you came Ambassador to *Rome*, he endeavouring to hinder the Sacred College from sending any to compliment you in their Name; altho' he afterwards desisted from that Attempt, when he saw the Cardinals *Ottoboni* and *Spinola San Cesareo* go off from that Agreement. But I believe they'll have a greater Motive to oppose him, because he always took Cardinal *Negrone's* Part in the famous Law-suit he had with our noble Cardinal *Medicis*, altho' he was frequently warn'd to the contrary. Nevertheless he endeavours by several Ways to get again into Favour with the House of *Medicis*.

The *Jesuites* will not be very friendly to him, he being supposed to be favoured by the *Janse-nists* in *France*, by the Means of Cardinal *Camus*, his most intimate Friend, who, in Conjunction with the Priests of *Pamieres*, likewise his great

Friends, has recommended him to Madam *Main-tenon*, and to the great Minister *Pompe*, that they may by all means procure him his most Christian Majesty's Concurrence to his Election to the Papacy. For this End he dispatch'd into *France* some Months ago a *French Dominican Friar*, a Dependant of the famous *Augustin Monk*, who is also a *French Man*, Prior of *St. Sabina*, who is the great Propagator, together with *Mon-ignor Fabroni*, of the Reform, and of the common Life of the Regular Clergy. But as yet we do not know what Success this Monk has had in his Endeavours; however, this we know for certain, that *Colloredo's* Enemies are always watchful to do him what Disservice they can with his most Christian Majesty.

In the mean while the *Jesuites* have discover'd to the Emperor this Cardinal's Correspondence with *France*, which has not render'd him any way suspected to his Imperial Majesty, he remaining still assur'd of his Fidelity and Affection to the House of *Austria*, and the rather, because his Nephew is married and settled in *Bohemia*, and that here at *Rome* he has never fail'd to shew his Partiality to the Emperor's Ambassador, even in Disputes that were not back'd by the least Reason, and were contrary to the Rights of the Holy See, nay, even to the great Prejudice of the *Decorum* that is due to the Pontifical Dignity.

For this Reason he suffer'd a great deal in his Reputation with all good Men, when in the famous Congregations for State Matters, that were held upon several Emergencies with the said Ambassador Count *Martinitz*, he shew'd himself highly zealous in favour of the Ambassador, and totally contrary to the Pretensions of the Pope. Neither would they allow of this Excuse from him,

him, of his doing it not to exasperate any more the Imperial Court, which was only too much incens'd already against the Court of *Rome*.

The Duke of *Medina Celi*, at present Viceroy of *Naples*, will always be a bitter Enemy to him, because when he was Ambassador at this Court *Colloredo* join'd against him to assist Cardinal *Salazar*, his most intimate Friend, who endeavour'd to supplant him in the said Ambassy. *Monsignor Molinos*, Dean of the *Rota*, has endeavour'd, and still endeavours, tho' all to no purpose hitherto, to reconcile them together. *Monsignor Caprara*, Subdean of the *Rota*, and Regent of the Penitentiary, having contracted an intimate Friendship with *Colloredo*, because of his being Great Penitentiary, has procur'd for him the Concurrence of *France*, by the Mediation of the King and Queen of *England*, whose Minister he is at this Court. Likewise the Duke of *Modena*, his intimate Friend ever since he was Cardinal, labours to procure him the good Will of all the Crowns; but he is able to do him little Service with the Crown of *France*, he glorying in his being Allied to the King of the *Romans*, and a Follower of the Sentiments of the Imperial Court. This Cardinal however, doubting still of meeting with some Opposition from the Crown of *France*, goes regularly every Year to perform his Spiritual Exercises among the *Carthusians*, talking with no Body but the General Procurator of the Order, and other Monks that are of the *French* Nation, to render them more and more favourable to his Interest, as likewise the Cardinals of the said Nation, who constantly frequent that Convent.

He was blamed not long ago when, upon the Arrival of *Erizzo*, Ambassador from *Venice*, he went and met him some Miles out of the Town,

in Company with three other Cardinals, Subjects of the Republick, that is, *Barbarigo*, *Noris*, and *Ottoboni*, whereas the Ritual of the Sacred College expressly forbids it, nay, on the contrary orders, that before they go to see the Ambassadors even of Crown'd Heads, the Cardinals shall first be visited by them. This Act of Flattery to his own Republick, as well as some other Particulars above related, has made some People doubt of his being truly a Zealot, except in so far as it turns him to Account, he knowing Godliness to be great Gain. And therefore it is, that after he was made Cardinal, his Barber having ask'd him whether he should leave him his long Beard as formerly, such as are not great well-wishers to the Cardinal say, that his Answer to the Barber was, *No, this Beard has already had its Effect, in procuring me to be made a Cardinal.*

Nevertheless I look upon him to be a Man of great Integrity, a great Alms-giver, and highly Charitable to his Neighbour; altho' much taken up in a Contemplative Life, by the frequent Prayers he makes in his leisure Hours. He continues still to live among the Fathers of the Oratory, having made a Bridge of Communication between his Palace and the Convent of the *Chiesa Nuova*, by the means of which he goes privately into the Convent, eats in the Refectory, and converses familiarly with those good Fathers as formerly.

Altho' he is a Politician, yet he makes no great Figure in the Cabinet-Council, being unhappy in expressing himself, whether by Word or Writing; and for that Reason his Vote has not that Weight in the Congregations that it ought to have. Notwithstanding the forementioned Exceptions against this Cardinal, and that he is commonly thought to be too rigorous, a great Reformer, inclin'd to Punish-

Punishment, and averse to Clemency and Bounty; nevertheless a heavy adoe will be kept about him in every Conclave, not with Design to make him Pope, but to shew a Willingness to exalt him, because of the great Opinion they have of his Holy Zeal. Wherefore, in my Opinion, he will be made use of as a Hand-Ball, to be tofs'd and bandy'd from Hand to Hand, till the Zealots have concluded on the Exaltation of some other Person to their Contentment.

However, if *Colloredo* should peradventure be Pope, he would tire all Christendom with Jubilees and Indulgencies. But it will be better to say no more of this Matter, following the Advice of *Seneca*. *Lauda parce, vitupera parcius, reprehensibilis siquidem est nimia Laudatio, & immoderata vituperatio, illa adulatione, hec malignitate suspecta est.*

THE
LIFE

OF

John Francis Negroni,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Genoa* the 3d of *October* 1629, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XI.* the 2d of *September* 1686.

I do not know how to describe this good Cardinal without staining his Reputation, he being in so great discredit because of his singular capricious Humour, and being universally hated by all the World. He enter'd into Prelature in the time of *Alexander the VIIth*, and was put into one of those little Governments thro' which Prelates pass in order to rise to higher Posts; but it was thought convenient to remove him very soon from thence, both to avoid those Dangers with which he was threatned from several Communities, which he had highly exasperated; and likewise,
because

because of his having given a sufficient Proof of his Perfidiousness in the Government of *Maritima* and *Campagna* in *Frosinone*; where he made three Highway-Men be hang'd after he had given them a Passport to secure them from being prosecuted in Justice, breaking in this manner the publick Faith, to the great Scandal and Offence of every body. Upon this Occasion he brag'd, that according to the Rules of good Government, all good zealous Ministers, such as he, ought always to give their Word to every body, but never keep it to any.

The noise which so great an Abuse made, was such, that *Don Marius Chigi*, then General of the Church, sent this Prelate Vice-legate to *Romagna*, that he might there learn to live with a stricter observance of the publick Faith, and a greater punctuality in his Promises, with more resignation and docility, and according to the Rules of true Honour, under the wise and prudent Conduct of the most worthy Cardinal *Bandinelli* now deceas'd, who was then Legate of that Place. There being at that time some Troops a levying in *Romagna*, because of the known Difference this Court had with the Duke of *Crequi* Ambassador of *France*, the Vice-legate very soon quarell'd with the Officers of that Army, and which is yet more, he first fell out with the Cardinal Legate himself, at whose Instance he was very soon removed, after having shewn himself to be altogether incorrigible.

Being return'd to *Rome*, he continued there for many Years out of Business, and at last, in the Agony of *Clement* the IXth, he bought one of the Commissioner's Places in the Treasury, but could never advance himself under the following Pontificate of *Clement* the Xth, for which reason

he has always proved an irreconcilable Enemy to Cardinal *Altieri*, even to his Death. What he has wrought against that Cardinal on several Occasions, and especially in the two last Conclaves, when there was some thoughts of exalting him to the Papacy, is but too well known to this Court, and it will be sufficient to mention here, how he went from Cell to Cell to show to every Cardinal the Process of *Francis Resta*, who is now Judge of the Vicar's Court at *Naples*, for having shot at the late Patriarch *Altoviti*, and cut in the Face the Ambassador *Passionei*, and all because of the Law Suit which the Princess of *Sonnino* had against the Dutcheß of *Cesarini*. In which Process it appears, that all these murdering Acts proceeded from the late Constable *Don Laurence Colonna*, because of the too great Power which the said Cardinal *Altieri*, at that time the chief Minister and Favourite, suffer'd him to Exercise in *Rome*; having even trusted him with the Keys of the closest Prisons, where were kept the Murderers and other Malefactors, that the Constable might have an opportunity of instructing them according to his own Mind. In fine, he wrought so much with this and other Insinuations against Cardinal *Altieri* his Adversary, that he never was at rest till he saw him laid flat on the Ground; and he was applauded for his Zeal in this Matter, because of the said Cardinal's Injustice.

For such like Attempts *Negroni* has not his Equal, he having a Breast of Iron, and a Brazen-face, to encounter and attack even the Devils themselves. But in matter of Interest and Justice, 'twas to him that falls under his Clutches, when he comes to have the Command of those that execute Justice.

• *Monfignor*

Monfignor Manfroni, Chief Intendant over the Provision of Corn, having laid down that Office, it was given by *Innocent* the XIth to *Monfignor Negroni*, whose Monopolies and Purchafes of Corn, which he made together with *Don Livio* the Pope's Nephew, were only too notorious; they having gain'd vast Treasures, by felling in the time of Dearth at a high Price, the Corn which he had bought at a low eafie Rate, getting it to be carried by the Horses belonging to the Treasury instead of Wood; and this occafion'd the Corn to be fo very fcarce, that it came to be fold one Winter by weight.

After the Promotion of Cardinal *Ginetti* he was named Treafurer in his Place, in the exercife of which Office, as he procur'd the Ruin of *Rome*, fo likewise he occafion'd feveral Tumults among the People, as particularly by crying down the Money at firft, and then by lowering the Shares of the Bank * for lending Money upon Pawns. As to the crying down of the Money, he left it to Cardinal *de Luca* to be the Author of that, who died of Grief becaufe of the Reproaches caft in his Teeth upon this account by the Pope, and the People went near to ftone him even after he was dead, when they were carrying his Corps to be depofited in his Titular Church of *St. Girolamo de Schiavoni*, from whence it was many Years afterwards transported to the Church of the Holy Ghof, belonging to the *Neapolitan* Nation. *Negroni* contented himfelf at that time with the Profit he reaped by crying down the Money, leaving

* *Luoghi de Monti.*

ving the hatred of that universal Damage done to the poor People to the aforesaid Cardinal *de Luca*, reserving for himself the general hatred of *Rome*, by lowering the Shares of the Bank for lending Money upon Pawns; by which he ruined most of the Houses of *Rome*, only for the ease of the Treasury, in recompence for which he was very soon made Cardinal, and afterwards Legate of *Bolonia*, and Bishop of *Faenza*.

In the City of *Faenza* he molested the Priests, at the same time that he persecuted the Laity in *Bolonia*. The Citizens of *Bolonia* and *Faenza* have spoke so much of his detestable Government both in Temporals and Spirituals, that it is not necessary I should repeat here the Accusations they brought against him. However, for my own Discharge, and out of Brotherly Charity, I ought to acquaint you, that he in his Discourses is totally contrary to what he appears in his outward Actions. He pretends to be most scrupulous in his Conscience, a great Lover of Justice, and a strict Observer of the common and municipal Laws; nevertheless by his indiscreet Zeal, and by his excessive Rigour with every one; he being an Enemy to Favours, and averse to do the least Service to any Person whatever, he has made himself odious to all Persons.

He is unquiet, changeable, tempestuous and covetous; false, mercenary, froward and malicious, neither keeping his Word nor observing the Laws, promising a great deal and performing nothing, and in fine, preaching to others the Observance of those Duties which he does not practise himself. This is what his Enemies say of him, who are not few in number. But for my part, I believe him to be a Man of great Integrity,
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charitable to the Poor, and generous towards the Churches; and of this the Jesuites are able to bear Witness, he having built in one of their Churches a noble and costly Chapel to the Honour of *St. Francis Xavier*, altho' in reality he did that to perform a pious Legacy, with which he was charged by an Uncle of his, who left him for that Effect upwards of forty thousand Crowns, besides a plentiful Estate to himself. He bought the Gardens and Palace, with the Houses adjacent, of the deceased Cardinal *Montalto* near to *Termine*, with design to found there a sort of a Seminary for teaching several Sciences, and particularly the Moral, which will be of great Advantage to the Christian Commonwealth.

He has bragg'd with an unbeseeming Vanity, of his having withstood our illustrious Cardinal *de Medicis* in the famous Law Suit concerning the Abbey of *St. Laurence*. And it was out of hatred upon this account, that during the time your Excellency was Ambassador to this Court, he borrowed the Pretext of your having delayed to visit him, to feed his Malice which he shew'd in the two Manifestos he publish'd, giving a relation of what had past altogether false. He lives, as he says, in the Fear of God, and honouring all Men. He is well versed in several Sciences, and especially in the Civil and Canon Law, as likewise in Morality. He has always lived under the Reputation of being Chast, without giving any positive daily scandal, altho' his Comrades laughed at him, as if this proceeded not from any Virtue of Continency, but from his Covetousness; saying that he lived continently, only that he might not spend his Money. However, because of the Character he has of being sordid,
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I had almost said of being an Usurer, he cannot be beloved by any except *Jews*, among whom, as People say at *Bolonia*, he is worshipp'd as a worthy Oracle of their Synagogue.

This Cardinal was forced two Years ago to renounce the Church of *Faenza*, because of the Complaints of his Diocesans against him. However, he never ceases to shew his Zeal on all Occasions; for which reason he made publick Declarations in the last Conclave, against the Cardinal's *Pallavicini* and *Camus*; because the first concurr'd in the Election of *Pignatelli*, after he had got Assurance of the rich Bishoprick of *Ostmo*, contrary to the Agreement he had enter'd in to with several Zealots to oppose *Pignatelli's* Advancement. The second of these two Cardinals he accus'd of Flattery and treacherous Dealing, having pretended that he would exclude *Pignatelli* by the Assistance of the *French* Faction, at the same time that by Order from the *French* Cardinals, he contracted with *Pignatelli* for his Exaltation. If ever he enter again into the Conclave, he will be desirous, in all appearance, to revenge himself of such like Injuries, and God forbid that he ever have Authority enough among the Cardinals to form the only Exclusive, which if he had, I doubt very much he would occasion a scandalous Schism in the Church, being incapable of yielding by the Persuasion of others, to any Proposal whatever, let it be never so just, if it be contrary to what he himself has projected.

It is necessary therefore, that the sacred College be on their Guard, not to admit the said *Negroni* to the Participation of any Treaty, that concerns the Election of the new Pope; that the Christian Church, and the Holy See in particular;
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may be secur'd against any new and greater Prejudices, which he may do to the publick Good. A pleasant Wit, jesting one Day on this Cardinal's malicious Temper told me, that he could wish *Negroni* were chosen Pope preferably to any other, that he might see what a bad Pope, not to say the worst of Popes, would be able to do, after having had Experience in *Odescalchi* and *Pignatelli*, much against his Will, of what good Popes, or rather indeed the best, are capable of doing. Then we might very well sing with *Petrarch*, *Fides exulat, regnat fraus*.

THE
L I F E
O F
Bandino Panciatici,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Florence* the 10th of *June* 1629, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the thirteenth of *February* 1690.

Altho' he is originally of *Pistoia*, yet he was born in *Florence*, of a Lady of the House of *Guadagnio* of *Avignon*, Sister to the Duke and General of that Name. He is learned in the Law, well versed in many other Sciences, and extremely well instructed in all the Maxims and Interests of State of Foreign Princes. He is disinterested, and generous, and so far from being influenced by any political Considerations, that for all the Gold of the World, he is not capable of making the least Step that deviates from the right Path of Justice. He is a true Gentleman, maintaining the Point of Honour, and observing his Word, in which he is most religious; altho' in this he is not much imitated by many People here, because of a retrograde Constellation that predominates over this variable Climate. He is
a Man

a Man of great Integrity ; and wholly contrary to Hypocryſie, and to the Grimaces of Bigots.

For his many Phyſical and moral Virtues, he deſerves to mount the Throne of Chriſt's Vicar, but more eſpecially becauſe he does all he can to avoid it. He has a free eaſie way with him, is well bred, affable, and obliging. He is a lover of Hunting, and is no Enemy to Converſation ; he is bold in maintaining his own Vote, moſt zealous for the Rites of the Holy See, and inflexible in the Defence of the Eccleſiaſtical Immunities. He has his Tongue at Command, and uſes it to very good purpoſe, in any thing that concerns Juſtice and Right, and eſpecially in the Advantages of the Holy See. He is greatly admir'd in the Court, as well as among the Officers belonging to the Courts of Juſtice, for his eminent learning ; and he is in high Eſteem with the Sacred College, becauſe of his great Integrity ; ſo that all Perſons have a particular Fear of his reſolute Mind, and of his Boldneſs, not to give it the Name of Obſtinacy, in maintaining his own Opinions. He has ſuch a vivacity of Spirit, that he comprehends any thing before it is fully laid before him, and he has ſuch a Clearneſs of Judgment, that he is never at a loſs for any Difficulties that are propoſed. He is ſuperiour to the greateſt Maſs of Buſineſs whatever, and altho' he has a great deal to do, yet he being indefatigable never ſweats, nor is ever uneaſie with his Fatigue, ſo that he ſeems as if he had never any thing to do. He is grateful, liberal, inclinable to be of a Party, and a true Friend to his Friend.

He came to Rome with the preſent Abbot *Altoviti*, Nephew to the deceaſed Cardinal *Julius Sacchetti*, under whoſe wiſe Direction, and by the
Counſel

Counsel of Cardinal *Julius Rospigliosi*, he applied himself to the Profession of an Advocate, in which he made so great a Progress, that he very soon became one of the most renowned Lawyers of this City. *Clement IXth* his Countryman having been raised to the Papacy, he was declar'd first Assessor of the Capitol. He entring himself afterwards into Prelature, was very soon named Lieutenant to the Auditor of the Treasury, which Charge he exercis'd for many Years with universal Applause; but afterwards renounced it, he refusing to act contrary to Justice, at the powerful Recommendations of the Nepotism of *Altieri*, in the famous Lawsuit of *Carbognano* with the Constable of *Colonna*.

By *Innocent* the XIth he was named Governour of the great Hospital of the Holy Ghost, by way of Provision till he should make a Promotion of Cardinals, and then he declared him Secretary of the Congregation for the Affairs of Bishops and the Regular Clergy, in the Room of the present Cardinal *Spinola*. In that Congregation, he had frequent Disputes with the late Cardinal *Peter Ottoboni*, he opposing always those Graces which the said Cardinal so very often demanded without Reason. *Odescalchi* being dead, *Panciatichi* desired nothing else but to have the foresaid *Ottoboni* his Adversary excluded, so that when he heard that he was made Pope, he was just ready to go for *Florence*, in the very Moment that the new Pope declared him his Datary, the first News of which *Panciatichi* would not have believed, if the Duke of *Zagarola* had not sent him a Confirmation of it.

It is certain, that *Alexander* the VIIIth pretended to do this in complaisance to the Duke of *Chaunes*, Ambassador from *France*, who had de-
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fired it of him in consideration of Cardinal *Rospigliosi*, *Panciatichi*'s great Friend; but even without this Request, his Holiness would have made him his Datary; because knowing *Monsignor Panciatichi* to be one of the most learned, and most worthy Prelates of the Court considering his Years, he foresaw that he could not fail to advance his Fortune under any Pontificate whatever. And therefore he was willing to gain him, that he might not leave him disgusted at his Family; and that he might give a Director to his Nephew after his own Death. That great Pope confess'd several times, that *Panciatichi* having opposed him when he was Secretary to the Bishops and Regular Clergy, made him inwardly conceive a greater Esteem and Affection for him; because he was sensible of his being in the wrong, and by Consequence that *Panciatichi* opposed him with Reason, without any Regard to Interest or Politicks, quite contrary to many others, who to flatter him, out of hopes of bettering thereby their own Interests, made no Scruple of ensnaring their Consciences, by gratifying him with their Votes.

He succeeded in the Exercise of that Charge, to the entire Satisfaction of *Alexander* the VIIIth, because of his great Capacity for Business, for which Reason, he very soon dignified him with the Patriarchate of *Jerusalem*, and afterwards promoted him to the Cardinalship, giving him the first Rank among his Creatures, after his own Nephew the Favourite and governing Cardinal, to whom that wise and prudent Pope always recommended, to take Counsel and Advice of *Panciatichi*, he himself having experimented his Integrity. And even at the Moment of his Death, he put his Nephew in mind of trusting to *Pan-*

ciatici more than to any of his Dependants, there being none of them that he would find so sincere as him. But Cardinal *Ottoboni* has not thought fit to give intire Credit to the Oracle and Instructions of his Uncle; his nice and delicate Temper, I had almost said presumptuous and arrogant, not permitting him to bear with the Repulses which *Panciatichi* very often gave him; he refusing to comply with every Demand of his, which was often more capricious than just. Nevertheless, after the Death of *Alexander* the VIIIth, there was none of his Creatures that proved more faithful to his Nephew in the Conclave than *Panciatichi*, altho' he more than any other opposed that Cardinal's Will, when it was his Duty so to do.

The present Pope *Innocent* the XIIth being exalted to *St. Peter's* Chair, *Panciatichi* was confirmed in his Office of Datary, in which he had different Success from what he had had under the preceding Pontificate. For the present Pope being too indulgent towards the Princes, *Panciatichi* constantly opposed him in every thing that tended to the Prejudice of the Datary, and of so many Offices in the *Chancery*, which are now quite destroyed by the many Gratifications which his Holiness grants every moment, to the great Damage of those who have bought the Offices, with an Assignment to the Fees for their Reimbursement. I need only instance for an Example, the fatal and pernicious Grace which the Pope granted, in compliance with his most Christian Majesty, when he approv'd of those very Bishops that had been rejected by the two Popes his Predecessours, because they were of the Number of those who had assisted at the Assembly of the Clergy of *France* at *Paris*, in *November* 1682; and

and he granted them moreover, as it were by force, the Expedition of their Bulls *gratis*, whereas a little time before they had offer'd to *Innocent* the XIth, and to *Alexander* the VIIIth, nay to the present Pope himself, whatever Sum should be demanded for the Expedition of the said Bulls; by which Concession he made the Parties interested lose many thousands of Pistols. *Panciatichi* was highly offended at the Pope's Proceeding in this matter, and always opposed it, protesting constantly, that his Holiness could not with a safe Conscience give away what belong'd to other People. His Holiness did the same thing for the present Elector of *Mentz*, to whom he gave *gratis*, at the Desire of the *French*, the Expeditions of the Bulls for the two Bishopricks of *Mentz* and *Bamberg*; which amounted to seventy five thousand Crowns effective, notwithstanding the Opposition, and Remonstrances of the Datary.

But the worst is, that the Pope endeavours to discredit him, and to render him odious to all Persons, by saying that *Panciatichi* would not do that Service at his Command; which nevertheless, to his own Confusion, he was willing to do afterwards, to please sometimes this, and sometimes that Prince. Hence it is, that the Pope altho' he knows him to be a just Man, and of great Integrity, yet he does not look upon him with a good Eye, because he keeps him in awe with his great Merit, his Integrity of Heart, and Freedom of Speech; his Holiness, after the manner of *Parthenope*, desiring no Body about his Person, but those Beasts of Burden, who bear with any Charge, whether of weight, or of Injuries. He has attempted many times to get rid of him, either by refusing him Audience, or by dispatching the Business of the Datary without him, or by several

ral Bravados, or in fine, by other Disgusts and Affronts, purposely to oblige him to renounce his Post, But he being constant and undaunted, has not only set Light by all the Affronts put upon him, as being Superiour to all Misfortunes; but he has moreover sent to tell the Pope again and again, that it is in vain for him to entertain any Thoughts, that he will ever willingly lay down his Charge, because of his Rigours and Hardships towards him, and that he will scarcely leave the Apostolical Palace, even altho' his Holiness should drive him out of it by force. Moreover, the Pope has offer'd him the Prefecture of the Court of Appeals, of the Congregation for the Council, and several good Bishopricks, in order to get rid of him. But this Cardinal has always refused the greatest Offers, and jeering Cardinal *Sacripante*, (for it is he whom the Pope has a mind to substitute in his place, and he promoted him to the Cardinalship as it were in despite of *Panciatichi*) he intreated him one Day to assure the Pope of his Resolution to serve him in that Post till his Death, unless his Holiness should turn him out without any Crime; in which case he would make himself be heard.

The Politicians are of Opinion, that the Pope would have sent him a packing a thousand times out of the Palace, if two Reflexions had not withheld him. The first was, that he might not give any Disgust to the *French*, who had recommended him to him. The second Reason was, that they might not have it to say, that he had fail'd in the Articles and Promises made in the Conclave before his Exaltation; which in that Case would appear to be Simoniackal.

In fine, *Innocent* the XIIth, quite contrary to *Alexander* the VIIIth, who made so great account of *Panciatichi*, and was never weary of praising him, does not cease to blame him, and discredit him with every Body; as he did lately to the Duke of *Savoy*, granting him, to his Shame, more than the Duke desired. For which Reason, his Royal Highness, animated by his Resident at this Court Count *Gubernatis*, presumes now to demand more of the Pope, besides the seventy two thousand Crowns, which his Holiness has cut off from the annual Income of the Datary, by granting to the said Duke, the free Collation of the Benefices within his Territories, by a Hereditary Right of Patronage; which *Panciatichi* has so much opposed with learned Writings, and which have serv'd to no other purpose, but to render him more odious to the Court and Nation of *Savoy* and *Piemont*.

This Prince therefore will never be favourable to him in the Conclaves, neither has he shewn any great Eagerness for him in times past. Altho' the Crown of *France*, for many Reasons, ought to be favourable to this Cardinal, yet it is much doubted of at this time; because that Crown will have a Pope whom they can govern after their own way; whereas *Panciatichi* is not a Man to let himself be govern'd, or that will concur, or agree to any thing which he ought not. *Spain* has no Reason to be contrary to this Cardinal, altho' all the *Spaniards* are not contented with the Datary; but in this *Panciatichi* has no blame, he not having been able to exercise the said Charge according to his own Mind. Neither has the Emperor any just Motive to oppose him, altho' by the Impression made upon him by *Chaffinet*, Secretary to the Imperial Embassy, during the Re-

fidence of Prince *Antony* of *Lichtenstein*, who is now Governour to the Archduke *Charles*, he let himself be persuaded to fulminate against *Panciatichi* the Exclusive in the last Conclave; which would be no difficult matter to get his Imperial Majesty to retract, if it were made appear to him, that the Denials which Cardinal *Panciatichi* gave to the Favours demanded by the said *Chafinet*, did not proceed from any Grudge against the Nation, or against that worthy Ambassador Prince *Lichtenstein*; but from the Knowledge he had, that the Secretary made use of the Ambassador's Name of his own accord, without any Order from his Excellence; and likewise from his own Conscience, which forbid him to grant the Secretary's Demands, as being in a manner always contrary to Justice.

However, the said Courtier, who was implacable against every one that did not immediately adhere to his Opinions, and who, in the manner of an Echo, did not suddenly repeat his words, discredited this Cardinal, not only with the Emperor's Ambassador, but likewise with Cardinal *Goes*. The specious Pretext which he made use of to cry him down was, that General *Guadagnio*, his Uncle by the Mother's Side, altho' born a Subject of the Pope in *Avignon*, had always served in the *French* Army against the House of *Austria*, and that in the last War of *Piemont*, upon the Conquest of *Nice*, he was made Governour of that important Place. He added likewise, that this Cardinal had been advanced to Preferments by *Rospigliosi*, and was a Creature of *Ottoboni*'s, both of them Houses well affected to the Crown of *France*; and that he confesses his Fortune to be owing to that Monarch,

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it having been the Duke of *Chaunes*, at that time Ambassador to this Court, that procur'd him the Office of Datary, in the Exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, by whom he was promoted to the Cardinalship; and by the present Pope (*) he was confirmed in the Datary's Office by the Mediation of Cardinal *Fanson*.

Nevertheless, with the Count of *Martinitz*, the present Ambassador from the Emperor, he has always cultivated a good Correspondence; which would be sufficient to counterbalance the bad Offices done him with the Emperor, by the late Cardinal *de Goes*, and this Ambassador's Predecessor, at the Instance, or by the Instigation of the said *Chaffinet*, were the present Ambassador to continue at this Court. But because it is probable, that he will leave it in a few Months, upon the account of the known Differences with the Pope, this Cardinal's Friends will be obliged to gain this Ambassador's Successor; for as to Cardinal *Medicis*, there will be no Occasion of any great Management with him, *Panciatici* being very well with the House of *Tuscany*.

The Creatures of this Pope cannot but be favourable to him, because of the mutual Relation they have to one another, altho' he was not able to have any great Hand in their Promotion. But the Zealots will be against him, they having an Opinion of his being their Antagonist, and especially *Colloredo*, who declared himself his Enemy in the last Conclave, when he crush'd the Exaltation of *Casanatta*, for having discover'd that *Chigi* had contracted with him, that he should make *Panciatici* his first Minister. Nevertheless,

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(*) Innocent. XII.

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the fame of the great Qualities of the moſt worthy Cardinal *Panciatichi* reſounds high in all parts, not only for his great learning, and ſtrict Juſtice, he being incapable of any other Error than that of Judgment ; but likewise becauſe of his unparallel'd great Parts, he being able to govern all Chriſtendom by himſelf. So that it ſeems, as if the Hiſtorian *Juſtin* had pointed at this Cardinal, and not at *Alexander* the Great, when he ſaid, *Vir ſupra humanam potentiam magnitudine animi præditus.*

T H E

T H E
L I F E
O F
James Cantelmi,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Naples*, the 23d of *June* 1645. and was promoted to the Cardinalship by *Alexander* the VIIIth, the 13th of *February* 1690.

He contracted a great Friendship in *Naples* with the Agent to the deceas'd Cardinal *Francis Barberini*, Dean of the Sacred College, having assisted him in the Recovery of several Debts due to the Cardinal in that place. When the Abbot *Cantelmi* came afterwards to *Rome*, Cardinal *Barberini* took such an Affection to him, that he not only recommended him at that time to *Clement* the Xth, but advised him to put himself in Prelature. *Cantelmi*, as good luck would have it, hapned to take a House in *Campitelli*, over against the Palace of Cardinal *Odescalchi*, who having observ'd him from his Windows apply himself diligently to his Studies, of which he stood greatly in need, when he came to be Pope gave him the rich Abbey of *St. Anthony* of *Naples*, which fell vacant by the Death of the Abbot *Magalotti*. His Holiness began to entertain thoughts of imploying him

him in the Service of the Holy See, to which he was greatly press'd by the continual Sollicitations of Cardinal *Barberini*, who was always making high Encomiums on him to the Pope, and procur'd the same to be done likewise by the deceas'd *Monsignor Favoriti*, to whom Cardinal *Barberini* had recommended him with great Earnestness, as also afterwards to *Monsignor Casoni*. The Pope at last named him his Nuncio to *Switzerland*, and soon after sent him Nuncio to *Poland*; in both which places he happen'd to give Disgust to some Persons, by not complying with the Custom of those Countries, in pledging all the Healths, and drinking the exorbitant Brimmers that were presented him.

Innocent the XIth sent him Nuncio to *Poland*, that he might discover the true Cause why King *John* did not prosecute his Victories against the *Turks*, altho' he was fully perswaded that the *French* were the occasion of it. And therefore he gave special Order to his Nuncio, to watch narrowly all the Motions of the *French* at that Court, he having conceiv'd a great Jealousie of that Nation, because of the frequent Conferences the *French* Ambassador had with the King of *Poland's* Ministers, which were held for nothing else but to find out ways to destroy the Holy League by putting a stop to their farther Progress against the *Turks*. *Innocent* the XIth, was therefore very earnest to have certain Information of their wicked Cabals for this end, that he might have a sure Ground whereupon to reproach the two Kings of *France* and *Poland*, for their secret Correspondence in Favour of the common Enemy of Christendom. Cardinal *Pallavicini* gave great Light to *Cantelmi* in this matter, which enabled him to serve his Holiness the more effectually, by procuring

curing the Advantage of the Holy See, *Pallavicini* having left the Glory of this good Service to *Cantelmi*, which he himself had industriously avoided, that he might not expose himself to greater Hatred from the Crown of *France*, after the many Threatnings that had been made him by Cardinal *Janson*, the *French* Ambassador at that Court. *Cantelmi*, for this good Service, was prefer'd by the Pope to all the other Prelates, altho' nothing inferior to him in Merit, in the choice which his Holiness made of a Nuncio Extraordinary, to assist at the Coronation of the King of the *Romans* in *Augsburg*. For *Bonvisi*, who was then Nuncio at *Vienna*, having been made a Cardinal, could not be present at that Ceremony, the Precedence that is due to the Electors of the Empire in those Functions, not permitting any Regard to be had to the Preference that is given to the Cardinals on other Occasions.

As soon as *Alexander* the VIIIth was exalted to the Throne, he promoted *Cantelmi* to the Sacred Purple, under the specious Pretext of his having been Nuncio Extraordinary at the Coronation of the King of the *Romans*: But, the true Motive of his Promotion was, that he might thereby quiet the House of *Austria* upon his making *Janson* a Cardinal, who being a *Frenchman*, his Promotion would have been opposed both by the *Germans*, and the *Spaniards*, unless there had been a Cardinal made at the same time for each of these two Nations. His Holiness therefore pretended, altho' in vain, to make the Emperor, and King of *Spain* believe, that he did not promote *Janson*, as being a *Frenchman*, but as having the Nomination of *John* King of *Poland*, who having deserv'd so well of the Holy See, ought not to have any Disgust given him; especially

cially since his Predecessor *Innocent* the XIth, instead of promoting *Janson* upon the King of *Poland's* Nomination, had named *Radziowski* for that Crown, whom both the King and the Republick, refus'd to own with that Title, because of his being promoted contrary to their Constitution. To satisfy the Emperor, he told him, that it was on his account that he promoted *Cantelmi*, because he had been Nuncio Extraordinary at his Son's Coronation; and he told his Catholick Majesty that he ought to be contented with *Cantelmi's* Promotion, he being a Vassal of *Spain*. But the Duke of *Medina Celi* having answer'd his Holiness to this, that he had promoted *Cantelmi* only to satisfy the Emperor, he having been Nuncio Extraordinary at his Son's Coronation, and not in consideration of the King of *Spain* his Master; that cunning Pope was therefore forc'd to promise the *Spanish* Ambassador, to make some other Subjects of *Spain* Cardinals. And the Ambassador contented himself with the Pope's promoting besides *Cantelmi*, likewise *D'Adda*, *Giudice*, *Imperiali*, and *Omodei*. But the three last his Holiness promoted barely in consideration of his own Interest, they being Commissioners of the Treasury, whose Vacancies brought him in considerable Sums. In that Promotion which *Alexander* the VIIIth made of eleven Cardinals, there were five of them Vassals of *Spain*. Cardinal *Cantelmi*, soon after his Promotion, was provided with the Archbishoprick of *Capua*, where he gave great Proofs of his Zeal for the good of the Souls committed to his Charge.

Upon the Death of *Alexander* the VIIIth, he came to the Conclave, in company with Cardinal *Pignatelli*, Archbishop of *Naples*, and other Cardinals of that Kingdom, with whom he made his
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Quarantain on the Frontiers; which gave him a favourable Opportunity of contracting a familiarity with Cardinal *Pignatelli*. When he enter'd into the Conclave here at *Rome*, he us'd his utmost Endeavours, with other Friends, for *Pignatelli's* Exaltation, in which he succeeded; and the Pope, in Reward for his Service, made him his Successor in the Archbishoprick of *Naples*. He has been always fervent in the Discharge of his Pastoral Function, of an exemplary Life, all Zeal and Piety, wholly intent on the Service of God, and particularly on rooting out all Scandal in his Diocess. Had he a little more Flegm, less Choler, and a greater Compassion, he would be more beloved by his Flock, and have greater Applause from every body. He is otherwise of an unblemish'd Life: Ever from his Youth he has had a greater Stock of Modesty, than of Learning. When he came to *Rome*, he set about his Studies, but a little too late; neither had he time to prosecute them, he having been very soon imploy'd in the Nunciatures already mention'd.

This Cardinal is proud and haughty, as are all those that are descended of the noble Blood of the Dukes of *Popoli*, who is the chief of his Family. And ever since King *James*, when he was Duke of *York*, and Commissioner of *Scotland*, declar'd the Family of *Cantelmi* to be truly descended of the Kings of *Scotland*, the thoughts of being allied to Royal Blood has so puff'd up this Cardinal, that he despises all the others as being far beneath him. He is cholerick to such a degree, that he is often out of his Senses with it, and especially in the Afternoon towards the time of *Vespers*, and a little after.

His Enemies accuse him of being ignorant, revengeful, and malicious. But for my part, I have
always

always found him to be a Man of good Parts, merciful, and upright in his Intentions. He has always kept a fair Correspondence, not only with the King of *Spain* himself, but likewise with all his Ministers, notwithstanding that he is reputed to be of a *French* Genius, but he has shew'd a particular Aversion to the Nuncio *Casoni*, altho' a Man of great Worth, who carried always very fair and civil to this Cardinal, having oblig'd him in many things, as particularly in the Business of the Inquisition, which is at present under this Cardinal's Direction, because of the Dispute there is with the City of *Naples*, for expelling the last Inquisitor. His Youth does not permit him to entertain at present any hopes of rising higher; and there is no doubt but his Vote will go along with *Ottoboni's*, if *Ottoboni* join with the Zealots. Wherefore let him say with the Moralist, *Erubescat senectus quæ se commendare non potest, non annorum canities est laudanda, sed morum.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Ferdinand D'Adda,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Milan* the 25th of *April* 1650, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander* the VIIIth the 13th of *February* 1690.

This Cardinal is indifferently well learned, of an acute Judgment, of great Parts, has a lovely Carriage, is of great Application, cunning, has a free easie way with him, is studious, and active, appears to be all Zeal, and yet diverts himself in Family Conversations, reconciling together the Profession of Bigotism with that of a Politician, and a lover of Pleasure, for which Reason he is reputed by some to be a Hypocrite, as by others to be ungrateful, proud, and malicious.

He was consider'd by *Innocent* the XIth as his Relation, he being Cousin to his only Nephew *Don Livio*, and for that Reason he was made a Prelate, and afterwards sent Nuncio into *England*, after the Death of King *Charles* the II. who was succeeded in the Throne by his Brother the Duke of *York*, under the Name of *James* the IIId. who

declar'd himself Catholick, and endeavour'd to restore those Kingdoms to our Holy Faith. There the Nuncio acquir'd Credit only with the Pope, but no manner of Reputation with those Hereticks, to whom it was necessary to have sent one that had a longer Beard, and a more exemplary Life.

He was not scandalous, but took his Pleasures; and he was believ'd by some to have had some Intrigue at that Court after King *James* was expell'd from his Kingdoms; and when Heresie return'd in Triumph with the Exaltation of the Prince of *Orange*, now King *William*, the Nuncio was in some Danger, and was forc'd to save himself in a disguised Habit. He was then accused of Infidelity by both Parties, and of not knowing how to carry himself dextrously in introducing, or rather dilating the Catholick Religion in those Parts, he going Hand in Hand with the *Jesuites* in fomenting, instead of repressing, the great Zeal of that Prince, which proved afterwards the Ruin of the Catholicks.

After Pope *Innocent* the XIth's Death, *Don Livio* being desirous to have his Cousin *D'Adda* advanced to the Cardinalship, he was gain'd, by the Persuasion of Abbot *Lucini*, now Advocate, to concur to the Election of *Ottoboni*, after *Don Livio* had stipulated from him the Exaltation of his Cousin. So that *D'Adda* was made Cardinal by the Stupidity of the said Prince, who, with forty three Creatures of his deceased Uncle, was not able to make any one of them Pope, altho' many of them were very deserving, and altho' by their Means he had it in his Power to exclude any other Pretender whatever.

He prov'd very soon ungrateful to the said Abbot *Lucini*, who once very severely reproach'd him with his great Eloquence, for having so soon
turn'd

turn'd his Back on his Benefactor, and told him; that his Purple was dyed with his own Shame; which Offence *D' Adda* bore very patiently, that he might not make his own Ingratitude too notorious.

Alexander the VIIIth being dead, this Cardinal pretended to set himself at the Head of the Faction of the *Odescalchians*, but these being exasperated at the bad Luck they had in the foregoing Conclave, by the imprudent Conduct of their Captain, they would have no manner of Dependence on this Cardinal, which is the Reason why he united himself so entirely to *Ottoboni*, his Creator. In this last Conclave he concurr'd to the Exaltation of *Pignatelli*, in whose Advancement all the *Odescalchian* Party readily joyn'd, hoping thereby to repair the last Discredit.

Cardinal *D' Adda* was well provided by the two Popes, and was by the now reigning *Innocent* the XIIth sent Legate to view the Rivers, together with Cardinal *Francis Barberini*, because of the known Differences between the Inhabitants of *Bologna* and those of *Romagna*. But he return'd from thence without any Conclusion, altho' his Expedition was greatly chargeable to the Treasury.

He was afterwards employ'd in the Superintendancy of the Fabrick of *Monte Citorio*, at the Request of Cardinal *Panciatichi*, his Friend, altho' the Building was already far advanced; and before it was finish'd he was rewarded for his Pains, the Pope sending the Marquis *Isimbaldi*, his Brother by the Mother's side, to *Spain*, to carry the Cardinal's Cap to the Nuncio at that Court, the deceased Cardinal *Caccia*, Archbishop of *Milan*, and afterwards giving himself the Legateship of *Ferrara*, which this last Year past was exchange'd

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into

178 *The L I F E of, &c.*

into that of *Bolonia*, where he now resides. In both these Governments he has shewn something of Rigor in the Execution of Justice, not keeping his Hands altogether clean of Bribes; and for this Reason he has got the Fame of being interested, as well as capricious, of being hasty, revengeful, and too punctilious.

He is so much self-conceited, that in the last Vacancy of the Throne, after that the greater part of the Cardinals had been toss'd up and down, he dropt a Word as if it were then time to treat of his Exaltation, without reflecting on his being so very young, and his not having to any eminent degree those Physical and Moral Virtues which ought to be necessary in such Cases.

He makes great Protestations to the *Spaniards*, of his being a Vassal well affected to that Crown; and with the *French* he preserves a particular Correspondence, by means of the Friendship he has with King *James* and his Queen, and with Cardinal *Janson* his Fellow Creature. Before he was made Cardinal he gave a very fine Sconce of Rock Crystal to *Alexander* the VIIIth, upon which the following Satyrical Epigram was made.

*Reges Consilio perdis Dada, vestis anhelans
Purpura, & sacram Ludis ubique fidem.
Nunc cristallineo devincis munere Patrem,
Extinctumque Petro das sine Luce facem.
Perge, age, falle Petrum, Reges perverte, fidemque
Extingue, at nullâ luditur arte Deus.*

THE
L I F E

O F

*Tuffano de Fanfon
Fourbin,*

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *France* the 1st of *October* 1634, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *February* 1690.

He is the most attentive, most cunning, sagacious, prudent, well bred, obliging, and most Politick Cardinal of all those whom the sacred College has had from beyond the *Alps*; and he has been the more acceptable to *Rome*, because they had an Opinion of him very far different from what he has proved.

This Cardinal was in bad Reputation at the Court of *Rome*, for having assisted at the meeting of those Bishops of *France*, in the House of the Archbishop of *Paris*, when they received the

Appeal to a future general Council, because of the Excommunication pronounced by Order of *Innocent* the XIth, in the Year 1682, against the Marquis of *Lavardin* the French Ambassador to the Court of *Rome*, for having gone to receive the Sacrament at the French Church of *St. Lewis* in *Rome* on *Christmas-Eve*; he being then under Sentence of Excommunication, for having come to *Rome* with such a number of armed Men, and so many Waggons full of Arms and Ammunition. The Prejudice they had against *Janſon* upon this account, was greatly increased, when in the Consistory, in which he was named Cardinal by *Alexander* the VIIIth, Cardinal *Colloredo* made a long Speech against his Promotion. At the same time many of the Zealots had agreed to give in their Exceptions against his Admission, both upon that most just Motive already mention'd, and likewise for having acted in *Poland* against the Holy League. But there was only Cardinal *Aghirre* who added something to what Cardinal *Colloredo* had said, tho' it was believ'd that many of them abstain'd from shewing their Dissatisfaction in this Matter, for fear of prejudicing their Interest with the Crown of *France*; and that others being displeased with Cardinal *Colloredo* for beginning to speak first in the Affair, when there were other Cardinals older than he, to whom it belonged to shew their Dissatisfaction in the first Place, they would not for that Reason back his Opinion, lest they should seem by that to own him for their Leader, and Head of their Faction.

It is certain, that *Janſon* has carried himself so cunningly, that not only has he gained the Love and Esteem of the two last Popes, with whom he has treated in the Character of Cardinal;

nal; but he has found means to banish, and bury in Oblivion the Hatred and universal Prejudice that was here in *Rome* against the whole *French* Nation, changing it into Love and Esteem; and he has moreover brought the *German* Nation into discredit with the *Romans*; whereas a little before his coming to *Rome*, in the time of *Innocent XI.* the *Germans* were universally adored.

It is therefore no wonder, if in the last Conclave, at which he assisted, he found means to exalt a Pope according to his own Inclinations. And it is Matter of Admiration, that he has been able to make the present Pope* so much a *French* Man in his Genius, (according to the general Opinion) he being a *Neapolitan*, and come of a Family that is under so great Obligations to the Crown of *Spain*, and moreover Archbishop of *Naples*. From this Example the *Spaniards* ought to learn, as a Rule of good Politicks, never to consent to the Exaltation of a Vassal of their Crown, to whose Advancement *France* likewise concurs; because in such a case they may be well assur'd, that the said Person has been first gained by the adverse Party. For otherwise, without having secretly capitulated with him for their Advantages, it is impossible that they would have ever concurr'd in his Election.

But to return to this great Person, we must know that he is descended of the Family of the *Fourbins*, Marquisses of *Janson*. This Family began to raise its Fortune in the time of *Lewis* the XIth, when *Palamido de Fourbin*, Seigneur of *Sorliens* was Resident for the States of *Provence*.

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He

* *Innocent XII.*

He was a Man of so great Vivacity, and of such a consummated Prudence, that he alone procured that contumacious Province to be reunited to the Crown of *France*, which the Duke of *Lorraine* pretended a Right to; so that in recompence for his good Services, that Monarch made him first Governour of the Province.

This Cardinal, when he was very young, enter'd himself a Knight of *Malta*, but afterwards when he was two and twenty Years old, he was made Coadjutor to his Uncle, Bishop of *Pegna* in *Provence*; from whence, having attained to the competent Age, he was translated to the Church of *Marseilles*, and at last made Bishop of *Beauvais*, who is a Count and Peer of *France*. Having made himself known at that Court, his most Christian Majesty was so much taken with his genteel Carriage, his great Spirit and Ability, that having carried him along with him to a Campaign, his Majesty took a greater liking to him; when he saw that in a Battel he would never stir from his side, altho' he was in evident Danger.

The King sent him afterwards to the Court of *Tuscany* to negotiate a Matter of great Confidence, and which requir'd great Dispatch; upon which Occasion he gain'd the Love and Esteem of the great Duke. He was after this sent to other Places, to manage several Concerns for the Crown of *France*; and in all his Journeys and Commissions he has had great success in most important Affairs.

He was first sent Envoy to the States of *Holland*, and after that, two several times Ambassador to *Poland*, where he first negotiated the Exaltation of General *Sobieski* to the Throne of that Kingdom, in exclusion of the Duke of *Lorraine*,

rain, whose Interest was carried on with great Vigour by the Imperialists, and by the Party of the late Queen, Widow to King *Michael*, that she might continue in the Throne by becoming Wife to that great Heroe, which she afterwards did, altho' she had not the good luck to set the Crown on his Head. *Fourbin* was then rewarded for his great Service, not only by his most Christian Majesty with the Order of the Holy Ghost, but likewise by *John* the III^d, with several Presents worthy his Munificence, and particularly with his Nomination for the Crown of *Poland* to the Cardinalship. *Innocent* the XIth then reigning would never accept of that Nomination, under Pretext that he would not promote for the Crown of *Poland*, any besides a *Polander* or an *Italian*, and by no means the Subject of any foreign Crown. But his repugnancy flow'd chiefly from the bad Opinion he had of *Fourbin*, having been assured by his Imperial Majesty, and by his own Nuncios, that *Fourbin* the French Ambassador fomented the Rebels against the Emperor; that he was Minister for the *Turks* in the Kingdom of *Poland*, when they invaded *Hungary* and the other Provinces belonging to the Emperor; as also an Enemy to the Holy League for the defence of the Christian Commonwealth, of which his Holiness was Head; and above all, that he was a bitter Opposer of the Pope's Authority.

It was upon this account, that his Imperial Majesty *Leopold* now reigning, in the judicious Letter which he wrote after *Fourbin*'s Promotion, to Cardinal *Medicis*, dated the 4th of *April* 1690, complained so heavily of *Alexander* the VIIIth, for having promoted *Fourbin*, without having any regard to his Interest; he being a great Enemy

to the House of *Austria*; as likewise because of the aforesaid Exceptions, and others of great Moment, lying against him. This Advancement of *Fourbin* to the Cardinalship, and other Political Steps under the Government of *Ottoboni*, made the World see clearly, that the *French* in the preceding Conclave had concurred to the Exaltation of *Ottoboni*, because he had promised them a Cardinal's Cap to *Fourbin*, who came very soon to *Rome* to receive the Hat, being cloath'd with the Character of the King's Minister.

Here in *Rome* having heard on several Occasions, Puns made upon his Surname *Fourbin*, which sounds ill in *Italian*, he resolv'd not to subscribe himself in *Italian*, or to have himself any more called by that Surname, instead of which he took that of *Janfon*, altho' it is the Mannor of the eldest Son of his Family. From the time of his arrival here, with the Majesty of his Presence, with his natural, free, easie Carriage, with his obliging way of treating, with the Proofs he gave of his sublime Genius, with that sweet sound of his harmonious Voice, and with his graceful way of discoursing, he not only gained the Affection of the Court, but especially of the Pope himself *Ottoboni*, who knew very well to discern the Perfections of Mankind.

From that time he reestablish'd a good Union between the Holy See and the Court of *France*, after the known jarrings, disgusts, and broils it had had with Pope *Innocent* the XIth. Afterwards because of the great Hand he had in the Exaltation of the present Pope, he got so much into his Favour and Esteem, that his Holiness lookt upon him as the Oracle of the College; nor has there ever been an Instance of the Pope's denying him any Favour he ask'd. For which
reason

reason *Francesco de Luna* in his Voyage of *Italy*, printed at *Lyons* some Months ago, says on this Subject, That *Janson* was in so great Esteem at the Court of *Rome*, that it made People doubt whether he was not more the Pope's Minister, than Ambassador from the King his Master.

This Cardinal therefore, with great Facility, adjusted from the beginning of his Ministry the Affair concerning the Bishops that were not preconised, and hindred the strong Resolutions that were to have been fulminated from the Vatican against the pretended Regale of *France*. The great Prejudices done to the Holy See, by passing over so easily the matter of the *French Regale*, and by other steps, of no small Consequence, which *Innocent* the XIIth has made in Favour of *France*, have not a little stained the Lustre of the great Merit of this, in other respects, holy and glorious Pope*; with whom *Janson* has concluded all these, and other Treaties and Negotiations, to the great Advantage of the Crown of *France*; which has got a great deal more in this Pope's time, than under the Pontificates of ten other Popes, the most favourable to their Interest, and with which they may very well rest contented, altho' they should have as many Popes successively their Enemies.

Notwithstanding the great Applause he had in this City, yet he would needs depart from hence, to return to the Care of his Church, there to enrich his Family with the Purchase of a considerable Mannor, which he bought with the great Sums of Money he laid up during the time of his Embassy, he being a very good Manager; for which reason he is taxed by his own Countrymen
with

* *Innocent XII.*

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with being extreamly covetous, altho' in Appearance he lived with a tolerable Pomp and Magnificence on all Occasions.

The true cause of his departure from hence, was, because he had it always in his view to get to be made Archbishop of *Paris*, and for that end had cultivated a Correspondence and Friendship with *Madam Maintenon*, *Pomponne* the Minister of State, and *Father La Chaise* his Majesty's Confessor. But when he heard that another was made Archbishop after the Death of *Monsignor Harlay*, and losing by that means the hopes of what he aspired to, he would needs leave this Place, which he did to the Grief of his most Christian Majesty, and with the great Applause of all *Rome*; he contenting himself with the Praise of having served his Master faithfully, *fructus laboris est melioribus placere.*

THE

T H E
L I F E
O F

John Baptist Rubino,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Venice*, the 23d of *June*, 1639. and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *February*, 1690.

The Fortune which this Cardinal had, by the Exaltation of *Alexander* the VIIIth, his Uncle by the Mother's side, proved his greatest Unhappiness; it having been the total Ruine of the good Reputation he was in before. For that Pope, having call'd him from the Bishoprick of *Vicenza*, to be Secretary of State, he stood there as a meer Cipher, because his Holiness, with his great Capacity, would needs do every thing himself belonging to that Office, and by that means lull'd *Rubino* asleep in Idleness, who having no Business to imploy his time about, and living in the Reign of a dissolute Nepotism, he plung'd himself into a lewd dishonest Life, to the great Scandal of every body who had formerly known him, and esteem'd him for living a good moral Life; if
not

not perhaps altogether exemplary, yet at least free from Scandal.

Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth, when he was Cardinal, having sent for *Rubino* in his Youth, to bring him up under his wise Conduct, put him in the Rank of the Prelates, getting him to be employ'd in the Government of some of the Cities of the Ecclesiastical State, and afterwards of the chiefest Provinces, such as *Maritima*, *Campania*, the *Patrimony*, and the *Marca de Ancona*, and at last procur'd him the Bishoprick of *Vicenza*. It is now well known, that that cunning Cardinal sent his Nephew a great way off from *Rome*, that he might not expose his Weakness here in the Eye of the Court, and so destroy the Hopes he had conceiv'd of a greater Fortune for him, by his prudent Administration of those Governments.

It is certain, that in them he had acquir'd a great Fame, and the Esteem of many People; because before he sent his Letters to the Secretary's Office, or to the Congregation appointed for the Government of the Ecclesiastical State, or to any other Congregation whatever, or to the Cardinal Nephew for the time, he dispatched them to that cunning Fox his Uncle the Cardinal, and that by his Order; who drew up the Relation of Affairs, and even the very Letters, according to his own Fancy, and in his Nephew's Name. So that *Rubino's* Letters were read with great admiration by all the Members of those Congregations, and he himself worshipp'd at a distance, as a true Model of a wise and prudent Governor.

Having been promoted to the Cardinalship by Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth, he was towards the end of that Pope's Life, sent Legate to *Urbino*, where he carry'd himself not only covetously, but
fardidly.

fordidly. And his Enemies tell so many Stories of him to his Discredit, that they have intirely ruined his Reputation; they representing him to be Simoniacal, covetous and lewd; full of Passion, and of mean low Thoughts. So that the present Pope had reason to abolish many of the Graces he had sold; and he was likewise, to his Shame, prosecuted for suffering too great Quantities of Corn to be publickly exported, besides what he conniv'd at privately, contrary to the rigorous Prohibition publish'd by his Holiness, because of the great Scarcity there was at that time in the Ecclesiastical State, and especially in his Province.

He is capable of Business, but has such an aversion to it, that he is immediately nauseated and wearied with the least Application. He is competently well learned, and has a pretty good knowledge of the Interests of Princes. He is neither of sublime, nor dull Parts. He speaks with Judgment, and distinguishes Times and Seasons; he is prudent, but is too much distracted from what he ought to apply himself to. He is courteous, agreeable, and cheerful; but tenacious, lascivious and headstrong.

His Vote will be always at the Disposal of Cardinal Ottoboni his Kinsman, on whom he has very often depended, even in what Gratitude did not oblige him to: But now he ought to change his Note, being pretty well advanc'd in years, and because of his Character of Bishop, which requires a good Life, and Prudence to know how to govern aright his Charge; altho' this is very difficult to be attained to, in the Opinion of *Tacitus, Ubi semel prorumpere, difficilius retinere.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Francis Giudice,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Naples* the 7th of *December* 1647, and was made Cardinal by Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth the 13th of *February* 1690.

This Cardinal is originally descended from *Genoa*, from whence his Father went and settled at *Naples*, purchasing the Principality of *Cellamare*; and in the Straits of the Count of *Ognatte*, Viceroy, he bought of him the Post-Master-General's Place of that Kingdom for his Life, at the rate of a Hundred Thousand Ducats. This charitable Prince having lived above Ninety Years, and his Place of Post-Master-General yielding him one Year with another Fifty Thousand Ducats, he became so rich, that besides the Purchase he made of that great Mannor belonging to the Noble Family of *Giovanazzo*, with other remarkable Places, he likewise married his Daughters to the most considerable Families of the Kingdom, giving them great Portions, such as the Prince of *Villa Caraccioli*, the Duke of *Nola Caraffa*, and the Duke of *Bisacce Pignatelli*. This last, after
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the Death of his first Wife, being desirous to marry her Sister, second Daughter to the said Prince of *Cellamare*, he apply'd himself to the deceased *Monsignor Mascambruni*, Under Datary, who had promis'd him a Dispensation; which, after the said *Mascambruni* was beheaded, *Innocent* the Xth granted him for Ten Thousand Crowns, which Sum the said Pope apply'd to the making of the new Windows in *St. John of Lateran*, when that Church was, for the opening of the Holy Year 1650, restor'd to that magnificent and stately Form it is now in, according to the Design of *Bernini*, and with the Charges of a Hundred Thousand Crowns, stipulated by the Transaction with *Fantino Rensi* for the Cause that is well known.

The said Prince of *Cellamare* had two Sons, the eldest of which is the present renown'd Duke of *Giovanazzo*, who married a Noble Lady of the House of *Papparola*, Daughter to the Prince of *Trigliano*, and Sister to the Valiant Marquis of *Capresi*. His second Son is this worthy Cardinal, of whom I am now speaking, who, when he was a Young Man, enter'd into Prelature in the Time of *Alexander* the VIIth, and bought first the Place of one of the Apostolical Protonotaries, and afterwards of one of the Commissioners of the Treasury.

He was sent Vice Legate to *Bolonia* by *Clement* the IXth, where he continued likewise in the Time of *Clement* the Xth, first with Cardinal *Caraffa*, and afterwards with the deceased Cardinal *Lazzaro Pallavicini*, both of them Legates. In that Post he acquir'd great Fame, by his free easie way, and his great Generosity, he living at the rate of the greatest Prelate whatever.

When

When the Marquis of *Cogolliudo*, now Duke of *Medina Celi*, and Viceroy of *Naples*, came Ambassador from the Court of *Spain* to *Rome*, he having formerly contracted a great Friendship with *Giudice*, enter'd into such a strict Intimacy with him at *Rome*, and took such a Liking to him, that he never rested till he got him made a Cardinal. In which he succeeded, but to the great Dislike of the *Spaniards*, who were not well pleased to have a *Neapolitan* named, instead of a *Spaniard*, to the Cardinal's Cap due to the Nation, in Recompence of that which was given to Cardinal *Fourbin*, a *French* Man. This gave some Suspicion that the Matter was transacted by the Means of Forty Four Thousand Crowns, which *Giudice* had promised to the said Ambassador, or rather was Security for the said Sum lent to the Ambassador, and which remain'd afterwards to the Cardinal to pay.

It is certain that this Cardinal is one of the greatest Heads of the Sacred College; and altho' he is greatly diverted from Business by Play, in which he spends whole Nights, yet the next Morning when he is to go to the Congregations, altho' he has never seen, and much less studied the Causes that are to be treated there, yet he getting them to be read to him in the time only that he puts on his Cardinal's Habit, he makes himself so much Master of them, that when the Causes come to be reported, there is no Man better inform'd of the Matter of Fact than he is; so that he seems to have studied the Case for a whole Month. And altho' he is not very learned in the Laws, yet he has such an Acuteness of Judgment, that he immediately takes up with the best Expedient of the many that are propos'd, so that his

his Vote is always one of the most considerable in all the Congregations.

He is very well instructed in Political Matters, and especially in the Interests of Princes. In other Sciences his great Spirit, which is inferior to none, supplies what he wants in Learning. He is of great Application to Business, indefatigably laborious, efficacious in persuading, inflexible in any Dispute or Quarrel he is engaged in, and above his Misfortunes. He observes religiously the Laws of Friendship, even to such a degree, that sometimes he postpones his own Interest to the Interest of others. He is generous, affable, well-bred, and obliging, facetious, kind, and has a most free easie way with him. But this does not hinder him from being punctilious in what is due to his Honour, revengeful of Injuries, capricious when he meets with a Repulse, and obstinate in his Resolutions.

Having been twice nam'd by his Catholick Majesty Ambassador to this Court, after the Departure of the Duke of *Medina Celi* for the Viceroyalty of *Naples*, and after the Death of the Count of *Altamira*, he made almost all the *Spaniards* his Enemies, because he did not give them Audience so easily as they could have wish'd. For which Reason they traduc'd him at the Court of *Spain*, as being negligent of the Affairs of the Natives of that Kingdom, and likewise of the Interests of the Monarchy it self. It was this that occasion'd the present Misunderstanding between him and the Viceroy of *Naples*, which in all appearance will be prejudicial to his Interest. However, most understanding People believe that these Discords are occasion'd, in appearance, because of the Cardinal's Opposition to Father *Diaz*, the Viceroy's intimate Friend; but that in Reality
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the true Occasion was, because the Viceroy, altho' residing in *Naples*, would yet have the Despotical Power of the *Spanish* Ambassy to *Rome*, and act as if he were still his Catholick Majesty's Minister to this Court. So that the Cardinal having refus'd many considerable Demands made to him by *Medina Celi*; the Viceroy, upon this Account, being dissatisfied with his Management, appear'd totally his Enemy, to the great Satisfaction of his Adversaries.

Nevertheless *Giudice* seems to take no manner of Notice of any such Opposition made him, minding only his Business, and his Diversion at Play. He likewise dissembles with the Pope * the Memory of the great Ingratitude he had been guilty of towards him, because with all his Cunning he was impos'd upon by the counterfeited Affection profess'd to him by the Old Gentleman, who, as soon as he came to *Naples* to the Government of that Church, the better to engage *Giudice* to bring over all the *Spaniards* to his Interest, renounc'd in his Favour the best Abbey he had, telling him at the same time, that he, having no Relation of his own Blood, must have the greatest Consideration of *Giudice*, as being Brother-in-Law to the Duke of *Bisacce*, who is the nearest Relation of the House of *Pignatelli*, as being a younger Branch of his House of *Minervino*. This counterfeited Earnest of *Pignatelli's* good Will to *Giudice*, made him use his utmost Endeavours for the Exaltation of *Pignatelli* to the Papacy, supposing that he would make Choice of him to be his chief Favourite, or first Minister, or at least Secretary of State. But he was very much disappointed, for instead of what he expected

sted when *Innocent* the XIIth was exalted, he only confirm'd him in the Abbey he had renounc'd in his Favour, and that too with a heavy Pension, which was the Reason that he went away from *Rome* discontented, when he saw himself excluded from the Apostolical Palace.

If he were not a Partizan of *Spain*, he might hope in time for a greater Fortune than what he enjoys at present; since, to his great Praise, we may apply to him the Political Character given by *Tacitus*. *Ipsa dissimulatione famæ famam auxit, existimantibus quanta futuri spe tam magna tacuisset.*

THE
L I F E
O F

John Baptist Costaguti,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome*, the 26th of *April* 1636. and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *February* 1690.

This Cardinal is originally descended of *Genoa*, but born in *Rome*, where his Father, as likewise afterwards the Marquis his Brother, and his Nephew married into considerable Families. He enter'd into Prelature in the time of *Alexander* the VII, and towards the end of the Pontificate of *Clement* the IXth, he together with the present Cardinals *Negroni*, and *Bichi*, were made Commissioners of the Treasury, in the room of three Commissioners promoted at that time to the Cardinalship, that is, *Lawrence Pallavicini*, *Acciaioli*, and *Bonaccorsi*. He was imploy'd in several Offices of the Treasury, and was at last made

made chief Intendant over the Provision of Corn, which Office he discharg'd many Years with great Applause; having been free from the usual Clamours made by the Poor, and the common People, on account of the Dearth and Scarcity of Corn, this Cardinal not having drove a Trade in buying and selling it, as some of his Predecessors had done, whose Mismanagements are not yet quite forgotten.

He was promoted to the Sacred Purple by *Alexander* the VIIIth, to whom, out of Gratitude, he made Presents of a considerable value after his Promotion, and not before, as was falsely reported. He leads at present, a retir'd Life, spending his whole time on Works of Piety, and Devotion; except those Hours which he employs in the Study of the Causes that come before the Congregations, of which he is a Member.

This is the Person whom *Ottoboni* has in his Eye to set up for Pope; and truly he deserves it, because of the many good Qualities he is endow'd with; he being a Gentleman of a genteel Presence, compassionate, humble, and of a sociable Temper: He is a hearty Friend, a Man of great Ingenuity, sober, generous, and a lover of Pomp. He is charitable, of a good Life; is indifferently learned, has a good Judgment, sufficient Parts, and is capable of great Application in Business. He loves to be neat in every thing about him, so that his House and Gardens are kept always in the greatest Order and Neatness imaginable; and his Coaches and Liveries, altho' they are not excessively fine, yet they make a greater shew than those that are much richer, he loving to be decent and genteel without Extravagance.

Every Year in Carnaval time, and on some other great Festivals, he retires for his Devotion, into the Monastery belonging to the bare-footed Carmelite Fryars at the *Scala*; where he has built for his own Conveniency, a small Apartment with a few Chambers. And in the Church of *San Carlo de, Cattenari*, he has made for himself a burying Place before a Chapel, which he is now causing to be built with great Magnificence.

This Cardinal is beloved by the Poor, and the common People, but hated by the Nobles. The City of *Rome* adores him; and altho' he has not that Applause in the Sacred College, which at other times would be necessary to one that aspires at the Triple Crown; yet there being at present such a scarcity of Persons eminently deserving of that high Post, this Cardinal may be very fair for carrying the great Lot, in case the Conclave should happen to sit any long time, he not having any one that is positively his Enemy. And none of the Crowns can have any distrust of him, he never having given the least disgust to any of them.

The Houses of *Barberini*, and *Panfilio* ought to be favourable to this Cardinal's Interest, not only on the account of the deceased Cardinal *Costaguti*, who was a Creature of one of these Families, and had receiv'd great Obligations from the other; but likewise because of the Relation this Cardinal's Brother has to *Maidalchini*, *Panfilio's* near Kinswoman. The *French*, for Reasons that are well known, will use their utmost Endeavours for the Exaltation of this Cardinal, when they see that they cannot succeed in the Election of any of those Cardinals, whom they would wish to make Pope preferably

bly to the others, as being better affected to their Interest. On the other hand likewise, the *Austrian* Party has no reason to exclude him, unless that some new Cause shall happen to arise in the Conclave, from the Differences that are between the Cardinals of this Faction, and *Ottoboni*, *Costaguti*'s chief Patron. The Serene House of *Toscany* will, in all probability, concur to the Advancement of this Cardinal, because of the good Correspondence it has with Cardinal *Ottoboni*.

The greatest Obstacle which I foresee this Cardinal will meet with, is the great Discredit he has in his own Relations, who live obscurely, and have all of them so little Sense, that they are not capable of being imploy'd in the Ministry; except it be the Prelate, who is one of the Apostolick Protonotaries participating of the Fees, a Man of a good Temper, and a sociable Life, but of no great Parts or Learning. However, this Defect in his own Relations, may be made up by the Alliance he has lately contracted, by his Niece's Marriage with *Tiberius Cenci*, Brother to the most worthy Cardinal of that Name, Archbishop of *Fermo*. This Cardinal *Cenci* would be made first Minister of State, which Office he would discharge to great Satisfaction; and his Brothers, who are all of them well accomplish'd Gentlemen, might be imploy'd in the other Parts of the Ministry, they having already given great Proofs of their Capacity, Prudence and Equity. Upon Cardinal *Cenci*'s account, it is probable that several of the Cardinals made by this Pope, may concur to *Costaguti*'s Election; in which likewise the Zealots ought to join, particularly because of this Cardinal's unspot-

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ted Life, if they were not tempted to oppose him, because of the Aversion they have to *Ottoboni*. His being as yet too young in Years, and his fresh vigorous Complexion will do him no great Service in his Pretensions; because in a Conclave, for the most part, they go contrary to the Sentiment of *Horace*. *Ampliat ætatis spatium, sibi vir bonus.*

THE

THE
L I F E
O F

John Francis Albani.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Urbino* the 22d of *July* 1649; and was made Cardinal by *Alexander* the VIIIth the 13th of *February* 1690.

He is Son to the deceased *Charles Albani*, who was Master of Ceremonies to Cardinal *Charles Barberini* now alive. His Father was Nephew to the deceased *Monsignor Albani* Keeper of the Vatican Library in the time of *Urban* the VIIIth. This Pope was a great Benefactor to the Family of the *Albani*, having likewise made Senator of *Rome* the Grandfather to this worthy Cardinal, and the Cardinal himself is in great Esteem with the Family of *Barberini*, the Brothers of which in all their Differences, and in every Occurrence, have recourse to him, who cordially interposes his good Offices for settling the Quiet of the Family,

Family, and procuring it all manner of Advantages.

From his Youth he was much given to study, and was no sooner advanced to the Prelacy, than he acquitted himself with great Honour in the Administration of several Governments that were assigned him, as particularly in the Government of *Rieti*, and that of *Orvieto*. He was afterwards call'd to *Rome* to be a (*) *Reporter of Causes* in the Congregation for Consistorial Matters, which Office was procur'd him by the Favour of Cardinal *de Luca*, who had a great Inclination to advance him under the Pontificate of *Innocent* the XIth, to whom he recommended him with great Earnestness. But the said Cardinal *de Luca* dying soon after, *Albani* remain'd for some time without making any Figure. Cardinal *Slusio* being likewise dead, *Innocent* the XIth resolved to substitute in his place, to be Secretary of the Briefs, whoever should be recommended to him by *Anthony de Fiori*, a famous (†) *Expeditionary*, and the most skill'd in such matters of any in *Rome*; by which means he had contracted a great Intimacy with the deceased Cardinal *Slusio*. And the said old Gentleman recommended to his Holiness *Albani*, who was immediately declared Secretary of the Briefs, great things being expected from him. When he first enter'd upon the exercise of his Office, he called to his Assistance the Abbot *Fabroni*, who is now called *Monsignor Fabroni* being a Prelate, with whom he contracted a sincere and intimate Friendship in requital of which he together with Cardinal *Panciatichi*, and at the Request of Cardinal *Rospigliosi*, proposed *Fabroni* in

(*) Ponente.

(†) Speditionere.

in the last Conclave, at the Election of the present Pope (*), to be Secretary of the Memorials. *Innocent* the XIth began soon to have a great Opinion of *Albani*, but the said Pope dying very soon after, had not time to reward him according to his Merit.

As soon as *Alexander* the VIIIth was raised to the Papal Dignity, he took such an Affection to *Albani*, that when he was about making a Promotion of Cardinals, he offer'd to his Nephews to name such Persons as they should recommend to him, excepting only one whom he was resolv'd to name according to his own Inclination, and this was *Albani*. I don't doubt, but this wise Pope was willing in this to comply with his own Inclination in some measure, but I believe likewise, he was moved to it by a politick Consideration, and out of self Interest, (which was also the Motive of *Panciatichi's* being made a Cardinal) that he might be assisting with his Counsel and Advice to the Cardinal his Nephew, whom he lookt upon then as too young and unexperienced for governing his Faction; which he foresaw, from his own crazy old Age, he would very soon have occasion to manage in a Conclave. At which time *Albani* gave great Proofs of his Fidelity and Affection to Cardinal *Ottoboni*, towards whom he has always shewn a particular Regard and Respect out of Gratitude; but of late he not having been able, on some Occasion, to comply with *Ottoboni's* Desires, his Eminence has not had the same Confidence and cordial Love for *Albani* as formerly. And this I'm apt to think, will occasion *Albani* to unite himself still more and more with the Zealors,

(*) *Innocent XII.*

Zealots, with whom 'tis highly probable he'll go hand in hand in the Conclave, since he lets himself be intirely govern'd by *Monsignor Fabroni*; and for that Reason has fallen out several times with his own Brother, and Sister in Law.

He is blamed by some for his two great Intimacy with Cardinal *Bichi*, but this proceeds intirely from *Bichi's* Importunity, who does as it were besiege him, and no ways from *Albini's* own Inclination, who has otherwise no great Sympathy with him. At present Cardinal *Paulucci* is enter'd into this familiar Society with the two former, and that by the means of *Monsignor Fabroni*, with whom he is as it were Hand and Glove. However *Albani* is a Friend to all, and makes it his particular Study to displease no Man; but on the contrary to oblige every Body, and particularly the Cardinals. He has practis'd the same Maxim with respect to all the Princes of *Italy*, among whom he is most particularly affected to the House of *Tuscany*, as being born a Subject of the Family *della Rovere*, from the last Branch of which the present great Duke derives his Origine.

He is very learned both in the Civil and Canon Law, in School Divinity, in Church History, and Morality; and is well versed in the Classick Authors, and in all other kind of Learning. He has a great Knowledge of State Affairs, knows all the Foreign Courts, and is very well instructed in the Interests not only of Princes, but of the most considerable Families in the Universe. He is a great Patron to learned Men, and likewise to such Hereticks as imbrace the true Faith, and particularly the *Swedes*, (eight of which Nation he has settled in the College for propagating

gating the Faith, who have a certain Mark to distinguish them from the other Students.) He is Protector of their National Church of *St. Brigida*, as also of the Minimes of *St. Francis di Paola*, of the Carthusians, and of other Churches and Fraternities. He's a Man of great Application to Business, and laborious to a high Degree; of exemplary Virtue, of a great Spirit, of great Parts, and of a most lively Behaviour; he's judicious, cunning, prudent, civil, facetious, and highly obliging. He is at present, and has always been not only free from any noted Vice, but of a pious, holy, and exemplary Life, charitable to the poor, and generous to such a Degree, that his Revenue is infinitely below the Greatness of his Soul.

As he is bountiful to the Poor, so he exercises an universal Charity towards his Neighbour; whence it is, that being so very courteous, and ready to do Service to any one that asks him, he exposes himself to Censure, because not having the Heart to give a Denial to any one, he engages himself to all that apply to him, and promises sometimes to divers Persons the same Favour; for which Reason malicious People traduce him as being a Double Dealer. Which is by no means true, but he seeing which way the Pope inclines, and weighing likewise the Greatness of Merit among the Candidates, at last determines himself in favour of the Person to whom Fortune seems to be most propitious. And then making himself the Author of the Benefit, he comforts only one of the Competitors, and displeases all the others, to whom he had first promised to procure them the same Office. Besides, not being able very often to obtain from the Pope the Favours which he asks of him,
People

People fancy that he puts them off with fair words; which is not true, but he being desirous to do Service to every one, frankly and readily promises to every Person whatever they ask, but not with Design to fail in his Promise to any one of them; for that only happens because of the Impossibility of satisfying so many Pretenders to one and the same Office, which can only be given to one. This has given Occasion to the Courtiers to make an Observation of this Cardinal, that he has many more Confidants than *Clement* the IXth had Godmothers before he was Pope. However, his Heart has been always set on raising his own Family, and advancing his Secretaries that serve him, and employing all those that have any Dependence on him, particularly his Countrymen, as all those of the *Dutchy of Urbino*, and the parts adjacent.

As to his Genius, he is rather inclined to *France*, than to any other Nation or Crown beyond the *Alps*; but without Prejudice to any one, he being severe and rigorous in his Temper. For the greatest Passion he has is for the Zealots, with which Faction, it is probable, he will always be united in the main, altho' outwardly he may appear to fight under the Banner of Cardinal *Ottoboni*. But it will only be on some few Occasions, that *Albani* will concur heartily with that Cardinal, *Albani's* chief Aim being to advance the Glory of God, and the Interest of the Catholick Faith; having still an Eye likewise to his own Interest, and to that of his Relations, and Domesticks, for whom he has a most passionate Concern.

His graceful Presence of Body, with his natural Gaiety of Humour, and that particular Art he has of conforming himself to the Temper of every

every one he speaks with, after the manner of an Echo, repeating always other Peoples words, without forming any of his own, procure him always the Love of every one; and this has given occasion to some, who are not well acquainted with his natural Temper, to judge that he does this out of Craftiness, when in reality it proceeds only from his great Prudence, and from his Physical and moral Virtues, besides the forementioned Gifts, with which Nature has endow'd him. Finally he is of a peaceable Temper, being willing to live and to let live; and altho' he is naturally zealous, yet he is no ways scrupulous in bare Trifles, but on the contrary, rigid as to great Scandals, or any Prejudice to the Holy See, to prevent which he labours incessantly. It is commonly believ'd, that he has several Cardinals in his View for advancing them to the Papacy, but I am of opinion, that he will use his greatest Endeavours for Cardinal *Costaguti* more than for any other Candidate, both because of his being his Creature, and cordial Friend, as likewise because of the Docility, and little Experience the said Cardinal has in Affairs, upon which account he might reasonably expect to make himself necessary to the Government. Whereas it is not likely that he would be willing to raise *Panciatichi*, altho' his great Crony, nor any of the other Candidates that are his Friends, he judging them too strong of themselves, and no way standing in need of his Assistance for the management of Affairs. Nevertheless, he will always know how to adapt himself to all Conjunctions, and, as a skilful Pilot, will sail with the Wind that is fairest. Nor is it to be doubted, but he'll always have a Share in what Election soever, altho it should be never so much
against

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against his Inclination; since with his great Spirit and Judgment, with the Force of his Eloquence, and Justness of his Measures, he'll be able to make any Person whatever appear to be worthy of that high Dignity. And therefore we may for his Glory, apply to him that which the Historian *Justin* said of *Philip King of Macedon*. *Eloquentia, & insignis oratio, acuminis & solertia plena, ut nec ornatui facilitas, nec facilitati inventionum deesset ornatus.*



THE

THE
L I F E
O F

James Antony Morigia,

A Bernabite Monk :

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Milan*, the twenty third of February 1633. and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XII.* the 12th of *December* 1695.

This Cardinal was christen'd by the Name of *John Hippolite*, the Hereditary Name of his most noble Family, which is reckon'd among the most ancient Nobility of *Milan*; and so very ancient, that in a competition of Antiquity between this Family and the House of *Borromei*, the Preference was given some few years ago to that of *Morigia*. This Family has not been so eminent as that of *Borromei*, for producing illustrious Men of all kinds, because of the few Male Descendants it has

has had, and of the Smallness of their Fortune. Altho' this Cardinal's only Brother, and his Nephew have but a small Estate, nevertheless they enjoy at present many Mannors, some of which have been given to their Ancestors three Ages ago by the Dukes of *Milan*, with very remarkable Privileges, not to mention the other Lordships and Dominions possess'd in former Ages by that Family; of whose singular Merit honourable mention is made in many very famous and ancient Memoirs in *Milan*, as we may gather from the Historians of that Country.

But to return to this Cardinal, he having a great Propensity to Devotion, and having liv'd always a most innocent Life, in the Flower of his Youth, in the Year 1651, put on the Habit of the Congregation of the Regular Clerks of *St. Paul*, call'd *Bernabites*, taking the Name of *James Anthony*, who was one of the three Founders of that exemplary Order, and likewise of the House of *Morigia*, who has left behind him the Memory of his great Sanctity. Having finish'd his Studies in the College of *Pavia*, he was immediately made Reader of Metaphysics, and for many Years in several Convents and Universities, he read with great Applause in Philosophy, and both in the School and Moral Divinity. He acquir'd no less Fame by his Performances in the Pulpit, making several Panegyricks, with learned and devout Discourses, upon the occasion of Feasts, Funeral Orations, and the like.

This Cardinal having been elected to several chief Offices in his Order, preferably to others, because of his sweet lovely Carriage, and likewise in memory of the fore-mention'd Founder of their Order his Kinsman, he would never accept of them, that he might have the more leisure to attend

attend the Service of God, and his own Studies, altho' he was sometimes in a manner forc'd to it. After the Death of Father *Leonelli* the Bernabite Monk, who was the great Duke of *Tuscany's* Divine in *Florence*; his Royal Highness being inform'd of the Merit of this great Person, of his own Motion call'd him to that Post, and sent him the Patent for it. Upon this he came to live in *Florence*; and during his Residence there, he being well known, and better experienc'd by that most prudent Sovereign, he was very soon named Preceptor to the great Prince, to instruct him in the *Classick* Authors.

Having acquitted himself in these Offices, to the great Satisfaction of that Court, he was named by his Royal Highness to the Bishoprick of *St. Miniato*, much against his Will; but he could not exempt himself from accepting it, Pope *Innocent* the XIth having forc'd him to obey. After he had govern'd that Church piously for the space of fifteen Months, he was, at the Request of the great Duke, declar'd by his Holiness Archbishop of *Florence*, Cardinal *Nerli* having resign'd the said Archbishoprick, and *Morigia* named to succeed him without his knowing any thing of it. He endeavour'd, with all Humility and dutiful Respect, to excuse himself to the Great Duke, from accepting so great a Charge, which he out of Modesty suppos'd to be too much superior to his Force; but no Excuse was admitted.

Being enter'd upon the Government of this Church, and having for the space of seventeen Years given constant Proofs of his Prudence, Charity, Attention and Learning; of his Zeal, Meekness, Devotion, and exemplarity of Life,

getting the Blessings of the Poor, with the good Will of the People, and giving Satisfaction, not only to those Princes, but likewise to his own Ministers; it is no Wonder that his Holiness promoted him to the Sacred Purple, placing him in the first Rank of his Creatures, that his great Merit might shine the more brightly, and likewise have its adequate Reward. There is no doubt, but the present Pope * has look'd upon him as his Successor, for which reason he has discours'd with him several times, communicating to him his holy Intentions, and this Cardinal may put them in practice when he comes to succeed him in the Papal Dignity. But his Holiness endeavouring to facilitate this Cardinal's Promotion to the Triple Crown, has rather done him prejudice than good, by exhorting all his Creatures to join their Interest for his Advancement, whereas the greatest Part of them have no great liking to this Cardinal's Person, not because of any defect of his, but because they have not that Correspondence and Adherency with him, which they have with the other Candidates.

The said Speeches of the Pope, as they were unseasonable, so they have occasion'd great Clamour against *Morigia*. And for this reason, his Adversaries have publish'd several Defects, of which they accuse him, to ruine his Credit, with whom likewise some of his Fellow-Creatures acting in Concert, they have out of Envy, and contrary to all Reason, given out, that he has

no

* Innocent XII.

no manner of Practice in the Interests of Princes, and much less in those of the Court of *Rome*; that he has not Courage enough to defend the Ecclesiastical Immunities, and that because of his Infirmities he would not be able to supply the Functions incumbent on the Pope, he being frequently tied to his Bed. They say farther, that having Relations in a miserable Condition, he could not do less than enrich them, he having given no signs of his being much disinterested, continuing still in possession of the Archbishoprick of *Florence*, notwithstanding he has frequently given his word to the Pope to resign it, and that his Holiness, in the view of his Dimission, has provided him with nine thousand Crowns a Year. They add, that because of his natural Easiness of Temper, he would be very subject to be imposed upon; and that the Vatican would be fill'd with Fryars more than it is at present, where they triumph to the great Damage, and yet greater Danger of the Holy See, from their Relations of Affairs, which are always known to be faithful and true.

But in spite of the Malice of his Enemies, it is notorious what Constancy he has shew'd, as a zealous Pastor in the Maintenance of the Rights of his Churches, and deserves rather Praise than Blame, for having avoided all Quarrels, by not acting according to his own Humour, and without just Reason. And his never having receiv'd from any of the Congregations here so much as one *Miramur*, is a clear sign of his never having fail'd in that, which at present he is unjustly accused of. As to the State of his Health, it is evident that he is only sometimes troubled with the Gout, so that he seldom fails to assist at his Con-

gregations, and at the Ecclesiastical Functions. With respect to his Relations, since he has never acknowledg'd or assisted them for the time past, this gives us ground to believe that he will not change his Nature in that regard, he having always hitherto distributed among the Poor what he could well spare of his Income, even at the time when he did not dream of being dignified with the Sacred Purple. As to the Church of *Florence*, it is well known what has been the cause of his delaying to give in his Dimission of it, that he might not prove ungrateful to the Person to whom he owes so much, by laying it down without first obtaining his Leave. In regard to his easiness of Temper, it not having expos'd him hitherto to be impos'd upon either by Fryars, or others; much less would it have that effect for the future, when he is advanced to a greater Post. Altho' this Cardinal is not wont to make a shew of his Parts and Abilities, yet he is so well instructed in the Interests of Princes, that one would think he had been Nuncio at all the Courts in *Europe*.

To these his many good Qualities, we may add his great Learning in Ecclesiastical Matters, as in Church History, the Canons and Councils; besides the School and Moral Divinity, in which he chiefly excels. He is prudent to a high degree, agreeing with all sorts of Persons; remiss in every thing except in the Point of Justice, which is as much as to say, in the Point of Conscience. He is a strong Defender of the Rights of the Holy See, zealous for the Advantages of the Catholick Interest, but no ways obstinate, nor scrupulous. He takes delight in the Company of young People, altho' his Age,
and

and natural Temper, dispose him for more serious Conversation. He has a certain natural agreeableness of Air, with which he captivates the Affection of other People as soon as they see him, and much more when they have any thing to do with him, he never having given the least Disgust to any Person alive.

For this Reason, he ought not to meet with any strong opposition to his greater Fortune, and especially from the Crowns, for whom he has always had that Veneration that is due. Nevertheless, he being a *Milanese*, it will be a difficult matter to get the Crown of *France* to concur to his Election; neither will it be easy to get Cardinal *Ottoboni's* Consent, because of the Opinion People have of *Morigia's* Austerity. As an Archbishop, it is certain that he has not his Match; but to be Pope, his Rivals pretend that he wants that Knowledge of the World which is necessary; and this he might have by the Choice of good Ministers, who would supply, with their Experience, his Unskilfulness in Publick Affairs, because of the little Knowledge he has of this Country.

However, in the Progress of a Conclave, when he chuses aright his time to set on foot the Project of his own Advancement, I look upon him to be as likely to succeed as any other. And that, because there is no Crown, or Head of a Faction, that after any long Continuance of the Conclave, would readily make themselves Authors of an Exclusive, that would be universally condemn'd, of a Person so well qualified, and so deserving, so grateful and acceptable to all sorts of Persons; even to those who are of a Genius, and Profession diametrically

cally opposite to his. So that methinks, we may justly apply to him what *Petronius* said in Praise of such another Heroe. *Vir bonis artibus famosus, apud amicos maxime potens, magnæ virtutis cum virtuosis, quoties cum otiosis nimia voluptatis, sapiens cum sapientibus, Et quod magis est, cum indoctis indoctus videri maluit.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Sebastian Anthony Tanara,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Bolonia* the 5th of *July* 1650, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the 12th of *December* 1695.

He liv'd a secular Life till he was fully grown up to be a Man, when he took Holy Orders, by the Persuasion of Cardinal *Carpegna*, who is of the same Family, and Cousin to his deceas'd Sister-in-Law, who was Wife to the present Ambassador of *Bolonia*, this Cardinal's Brother. In her first Marriage she had for Husband the Marquis *Salderio Patritii* of *Sienna*, and by him a Daughter, the Marchioness *Vittoria Spada*, who was Mother to the young Marchioness *Riccardi*.

By the Favour of the foresaid Cardinal *Carpegna Tanara*, was named Internuncio to *Brussels*, where, instead of attending on the Service of the Holy

Holy See, he gave himself wholly up to his Love Intrigues with Madam *de Leyden*, of the House of *Croy*, a Widow Lady of considerable Note. He was so deeply enamour'd of this Lady, that he was just ready to Marry her, and had actually done it, if his Nephew, Count *Francis Tanara*, had not taken Post for *Brussels*, in order to prevent it. The Count, what with the force of his own Rhetorick, and by representing to his Uncle the Universal Dissatisfaction of all his Relations with this Matter, being likewise assisted herein by the Governor of *Flanders*, put him quite off the Match. And to remove him from the Lady's Presence, they procur'd for him the Nunciature of *Cologne*, which he obtain'd with great Difficulty, and not without great Heats. He then put himself into full Orders, and got the Title of Archbishop *in partibus Infidelium*.

At *Cologne*, upon Occasion of the great Contest about that Electorate, between Cardinal *Furstembergh* and Prince *Joseph Clement* of *Bavaria*, the present Elector of *Cologne*, the Nuncio shew'd himself to be a true *Bolonese*, by his double Dealing, and by making Protestations of a sincere Partiality at the same time to both the contending Parties. This treacherous Dealing having been discover'd by the Elector of *Bavaria*, he made heavy Complaints against the Nuncio; so that the Pope, to prevent his falling into some Inconvenience, thought fit to send him Nuncio to *Portugal*, when *Durazzi* went from thence to the Nunciature of *Spain*. In his Voyage thither a Ship laden with a great deal of his Goods was cast away. At the Court of *Portugal* he acquir'd neither great Praise nor great Blame, having had time to shew himself in nothing, except in his eagerness to heap up Riches.

After

After the Exaltation of the present Pope †, by the Mediation of Cardinal *Carpegna*, who gain'd over to his Interest the Prince of *Lichteftein*, the Emperor's Ambassador to this Court, as likewise Baron *Chaffinet*, Secretary to the Embassy, his Imperial Majesty was prevail'd on to declare his willingness to receive *Tanara* for Nuncio at his Court. Upon which *Tanara* was recommended to his Holiness for this Post by Cardinal *Spada*, Secretary of State, and that because of the Relation between their two Families, as is already mention'd. In this Voyage likewise he lost a great deal of his Furniture in a Ship which, having sail'd from *Lisbon*, had the same bad Luck of being cast away, as well as the other Ship which carried his Goods when he went from the Nunciature of *Cologne* to that of *Portugal*.

At the Court of *Vienna* this Nuncio was received at first but very coldly, and with no great Applause, it having been represented to them, that he was of a *French* Genius, that he had shewn himself such in *Flanders*, *Cologne*, and *Portugal*; and that all his Family was partial to the same Interest. His first and chiefest Care therefore was to remove this Prejudice that lay against him; and he tried all manner of ways to make himself be thought a true Imperialist. And in this he succeeded, altho' his Nunciature happen'd to be in a ticklish time, when his Imperial Majesty, together with the whole Empire, complain'd heavily of the present Pope, because his Holiness would never grant him any Supplies towards carrying on the War against the *Turk*, during the time that the Emperor was in War with *France*. And his Holiness back'd his Denial with
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† *Innocent XII.*

this Dilemma, saying, *Either the Emperor is in great Straits, or he is not. If he is in Straits, let him make Peace with the Catholicks, and he shall have what Supplies he pleases. If he is not in so great Want, then it is not reasonable that the Treasure of the Church should be unseasonably exhausted to supply him.* But this Reasoning did by no means satisfy the *Germans*, and therefore they were constantly making unreasonable Complaints and Clamours to the Nuncio *Tanara*, threatening, at the time the *German Troops* were marching into *Italy*, that they would invade the Ecclesiastical State. For the Security of which the Pope reinforc'd all his Garrisons towards the Frontiers, and nam'd for Major-General of all his Forces the deceas'd *Don Camillus de Dura*, Duke of *Erce*, a *Neapolitan Gentleman*, and one of the best bred Men, most obliging, and most exemplary in his Life and Conversation, of any we have known in these Parts of his Profession.

Besides these Clamours and Threatnings against the Pope at the Court of *Vienna*, his Holiness receiv'd daily some new Dissatisfaction, what from the Liberty that was given to the Heretick Ministers to preach in *Savoy*, in *Piemont*, and in the State of *Milan*, and what from the frequent Disputes he had here with the two Imperial Ambassadors *Lichtestein* and *Martinitz*. So that *Tanara* had frequent Occasions of being reduc'd to Straits and Difficulties, almost every Moment, with the Imperial Court. But by his Cunning and Dexterity he overcame them all, finding always Means to mitigate the Fury of the *Germans* against the Pope, and at the same time making his Holiness and the Court of *Rome* believe him to be a Martyr for the Service of the Holy See, and to be the greatest Politician in the Universe.

Tanara

Tanara being an able Pen man found Means, by his Letters, to raise his Reputation in *Rome* to such a degree, that the Pope never spoke of him but with the highest Commendations imaginable, saying, that he was a greater Politician than *Tacitus*, and that he excell'd *Tully* himself in Eloquence. The Pope always long'd to see *Tanara's* Letters, which were likewise greatly admir'd at the Secretary's Office. His Merit was highly extoll'd by all the Court of *Rome*, and that more than it deserv'd, it being impossible that Flattery can contain it self within the Bounds of Justice. In fine, the good Old Pope hasten'd his first Promotion of Cardinals the sooner, because of his Impatience to see *Tanara*, whom he had never known, not so much as by sight. His Holiness had already determin'd within himself to take *Tanara* into the Sacred Palace, and to make him his prime Minister, or Secretary of State, and to turn out the most worthy Cardinal *Spada*, whose Uprightness and Integrity, in the Administration of the Publick Affairs, will hardly be equall'd by any that succeed him in the Ministry.

The Nuncio *Tanara* being made a Cardinal, he came very soon after to *Rome*, where he was more impatiently long'd for by the Pope, than the *Jews* long for their Messias. But in the first Interview he had with his Holiness, instead of containing himself barely within the Terms of his great Obligations to his Creator, and in Promises of a constant Adherence to the Interests of his Family, he had no sooner spoke two Words of bare Thanks for the great Honour he had receiv'd, than he began to make the Pope uneasie, by his repeated Requests to him, to grant the Emperor Supplies for carrying on the War against the *Turks*. And the more that his Holiness avoided to talk
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of this Subject, by changing the Thread of the Discourse, the more earnest was he in renewing the same Requests, nay, endeavour'd, by strong Arguments, to convince his Holiness that he was under an Obligation of granting Succours to his Imperial Majesty, as being Head of the Holy League, because *Innocent* the XIth, his Predecessor and Creator, had sworn so to do when he concluded the League.

The Pope, being highly offended at this unreasonable Discourse of *Tanara's*, put soon an end to his Audience. And immediately after he was gone out from him, his Holiness sent for the three Cardinals of the Palace, and told them, *That Tanara had just now appear'd to him in the Figure of a Quack Doctor, that he had not answer'd his Expectation in the least, and that, by what he could gather from his Discourse, he could look upon him to be nothing else but a meer empty Fool, without Manners, without Prudence, and without Politicks; he having, instead of shewing himself to be an humble obliged Creature, talk'd to him as if he had been vested with the Character of the Emperor's Ambassador.* These and many such Complaints the Pope made against *Tanara* to the Palatine Cardinals, who did not fail on this Occasion to let his Holiness know their own Sentiments of him. *Panciatichi* and *Albani*, seeing Cardinal *Spada* altogether silent because of his natural Modesty, were the first that open'd their Mouths, and added Fewel to the Pope's Displeasure with *Tanara*. They told his Holiness, that they had been all along sensible of the Error he was in, in having such a high Opinion of *Tanara's* Merit, without any manner of Ground; but that, because of the common Report, that his Holiness intended to take him into the Sacred Palace, with
other

other new Ministers, they had hitherto held their Peace, and abstain'd from undeceiving his Holiness in this Error, that they might not seem to contradict his Will and Pleasure in any thing. In effect the Pope did confess to them, That altho' he had no Thoughts of turning any of them out of the Palace, yet he had resolv'd to employ *Tanara* as his first Minister. But these two cunning Cardinals, who did not think themselves very secure, as is commonly believ'd, ruin'd *Tanara's* Credit for ever with the Pope. Thus did God chastize the deceitful and double Nature of Cardinal *Tanara*, the very first time that, contrary to his natural Temper, he attempted to appear sincere and faithful. And yet there is no Juncture of Time, in which Divines would have more easily excus'd his dissembling, than in this of his first Interview with the Pope, when he might have shewn his Gratitude at least in Words, since he was resolv'd to prove most ungrateful in his Actions.

The Opinions of People concerning this Error of *Tanara's* were very different. But not to mention here the Judgment of others, I, for my part, look upon *Tanara* to be a greater Politician than to do any thing of this nature rashly, and without Consideration. And it would be absurd to think, that this Cardinal should be capable of committing such a Blunder as this, without a great Motive of Self-Interest, he being dexterous, cunning, and prudent. My Opinion therefore in this Matter is, that *Tanara*, being blinded with the Hopes of becoming first Minister of State, in case *Carpegna*, his Kinsman, should happen to be chosen Pope, endeavour'd to oblige the Emperor, by procuring him the Succours he so earnestly desir'd in this time of his great Straits; thinking

thinking by this means to make himself pass for a true Imperialist. And in this he succeeded according to his Wish. For this his Carriage with the Pope made every Body at the Court of *Vienna* think that he was cordial and hearty in their Interest, whereas they commonly believ'd him, as is already said, to be of a *French* Genius; as likewise Cardinal *Carpegna*, who, upon this Score, had already met with Opposition from the Emperor in the Conclave, when it was propos'd to make him Pope. So that *Tanara*, in hopes of promoting *Carpegna's* Exaltation to the Papal Throne, and by that means his own Advantage, in being prime Minister of State under him, did not stick to shew his Ingratitude to the Pope, after he had advanc'd him to the Cardinal's Dignity, and provided him with good Benefices, as particularly the rich Abbey of *Nonantola*.

Some Months ago this Cardinal had great Disputes with the Duke of *Modena* in his Abbey of *Nonantola*, because of his keeping there, in Despite of his Highness, a certain Archpriest, whom the Duke made afterwards be carried away by armed Men from under the Cardinal's Jurisdiction. And when his Eminence was endeavouring to get an Order from the Congregation of the Council, to oblige the Duke to restore him to his Cure of *Nonantola*, the Archpriest was at last, by a secret Dose in a Mess of Broth, sent quietly a packing into another World. In this Affair *Tanara* gain'd no Credit, nay, on the contrary, the Blame was laid at his Door. But he was still much more blamed for adhering to the Emperor's Ambassador, Count *Martinitz*, in all his unjust Pretensions; it having been commonly believ'd, to this Cardinal's Misfortune, that he was the Person that gave the Ambassador Intelligence of what

what pass in the Congregations of State, which were so frequently assembled at that time because of the Disputes which the Holy See had with his Excellence, altho' all the Cardinals that assisted at those Congregations were under an Oath of Secrecy.

This Cardinal had likewise the bad Luck, when he was Nuncio at *Vienna*, to be always at Variance with the famous Marquis of *Borgo Maynero*, Ambassador from his Catholick Majesty to that Court. The Occasion of their falling out was this. The Nuncio, upon his first Arrival at *Vienna*, was lodg'd in the House of the Marquis *Obizzi* of *Ferrara*, his Kinsman, and one Day, as he was sitting at Table, the *Spanish* Ambassador sent to compliment him upon his Arrival, which Compliment he receiv'd without offering to rise from the Table. At this the Ambassador was so highly offended, that he would never after have any more Commerce with the Nuncio; neither would he be so much as reconciled to him on his Death-bed, altho' *Tanara* had offer'd him all manner of Satisfaction from the beginning. But the Marquis of *Borgo Maynero*, to excuse himself, gave out that he would have nothing to do with a Nuncio, who, instead of living in an Indifferency and equal Correspondence with all Nations, had shewn himself in all Places to be too much a *French* Man, as particularly at *Cologne*. However, at present *Tanara* is highly zealous for the House of *Austria*, but has his own Ends in it, as is sufficiently known. I foresee clearly that, in Case of a Conclave, this Cardinal will not join with the Creatures of *Innocent* the XIIth, because he will not readily condescend to subject himself to the Directions of others. And it is not possible that he can ever become Head of his Fellow Creatures,

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which is the thing he aims at, he having particular Views and Interests of his own, quite different from theirs, and there being among them Cardinals of a much higher Sphere than *Tanara*.

This Cardinal is otherwise a well bred Man, courteous, discreet, of a good Capacity, and a great Attention, but of no great Learning in any Science, altho' excellently well instructed in all the Interests of the Princes of *Europe*. He being a Man of good natural Parts, supplies in the Congregations his want of Learning by his great Application, altho' he is somewhat slow in Comprehension. But he is highly to be commended for the great Eloquence of his Pen, which makes some Amends for his Unhappiness in expressing himself by Word of Mouth, because of his Stammering, which Imperfection appears still the greater by his want of Teeth. Some People, besides the foremention'd Vices of Disingenuity, Hypocrisie, and Ingratitude, of which this Cardinal is accus'd, do likewise tax him with being covetous, vain, and presumptuous. But whoever is intimately acquainted with this Cardinal will not so easily discover these Defects in him, but on the contrary will find him worthy of Commendation, for the many other good Qualities he is endow'd with. For according to the Opinion of *Tacitus*, *Omne ignotum pro magnifico est*.

T H E
L I F E
O F

James Boncompagni,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Sora* in *Abruzzo* the 19th of *May* 1653, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 12th of *December* 1695.

He no sooner enter'd into Prelature but he was dignified with several Governments in the Ecclesiastick State, in which he made appear his Capacity and Application, not being able to make any shew of his Learning. In his Youth he was wholly addicted to Pleasure, and engaged himself in several Love Intreagues. In the time of *Innocent* the XIth he made no great Progress in his Fortune, because of his Brother the Duke of *Sora*, against whom an Outlawry was decreed by Order of his Holiness, he having pursued with armed Men some Highway-Men of the Kingdom.

of *Naples* within the Ecclesiastick Territories, and there killed them; and this he did to gratifie the Marquis *del Carpio* Viceroy of *Naples*, who with great Earnestness beg'd this Service of him. He could never obtain the Favour from the said Pope to have his Outlawry revoked, altho' the deceased Cardinal *Ottoboni* us'd great Endeavours to procure it; but he was afterwards restored to his former State by the said Cardinal, as soon as he was made Pope after the Death of his Predecessor.

The same *Alexander* the VIIIth bestow'd on this Prelate the Archbishoprick of *Bolonia*, but charged with excessive Pensions, which he has found means to extinguish by little and little with the Money he has borrow'd of his own Relations, and particularly the greatest Pension which was due to the present Cardinal *Ottoboni*. He was bound likewise to pay every Year great Pensions to Hospitals and other Places, which he has compounded for by advancing several thousands of Crowns, that he might have the Revenues of that Church entirely free to himself, altho' he is yet a young Man; so that in process of time he'll be able to supply considerably his Brother the Duke of *Sora*, who has been at great Charges for his Advancement.

The Duke out of Gratitude to *Alexander* the VIIIth, for having bestowed on his Brother the Archbishoprick of *Bolonia*, made him a Present of the fine Cabinet of ancient Medals, belonging to his Family for several Generations, and which was valued at more than a thousand Pistoles. Besides, the said Duke of *Sora* having given his Consent to the Sale of the Palace *Ludovico* at a low rate, this was a sufficient Motive to the present Pope, to advance his Brother

to the Cardinal's Dignity in his first Promotion, altho he gave out that it was because he was of a House that had produced Popes, and because he was Archbishop of such a conspicuous Church.

He lives now at *Bolonia*, applying himself to the good Government of his Flock, with a most Exemplary Life, wholly intent on Works of Piety, and rooting up Scandals, diligent in relieving the Poor, and keeping good Discipline among his Clergy. He has firmly maintain'd the Rights of his Church on several Occasions against the Cardinal Legates, and has given universal Edification to the People by his easiness of Access, his Lenity to the oppressed, and his diligent visiting all his Diocess, even in the most Mountainous Parts, he having gone on Horseback, and sometimes even on Foot, in the Places that were impracticable for Coaches, Cattle, or Litters.

As soon as he was made Cardinal he went to pay his Duty to the Dutcheß his Mother in *Abruzzo*, who with great Impatience, and no less Joy, expected him at her Country Seat, that she might embrace him and bless him now that he was a Cardinal. This great respect to his own Mother, with the Addition of many moral Virtues, make him a shining Example to others, and procure him an universal Esteem. He is charitable to the Poor, serviceable, grateful, kind, ingenious and serious, altho' some envious People charge him with being simple, proud, reserved, inconstant, passionate, ignorant and coverous. The Truth is, he spends a great deal in his profuse way of living, and when any Stranger of Quality passes through *Bolonia*, he has always exceeded in sumptuous Presents; and

particularly those were most magnificent which he gave last Year to the two Queens, that is, to the Queen of *Poland* in her Passage thro' *Bolonia* to *Rome*; and to the Queen of the *Romans*, when he went to *Modena* in great Splendor, cloath'd with the specious Character of Legate *a Latere*, to compliment her in the Name of the Pope.

On that Occasion he made his Generosity appear in every thing, both by the numerousness of his Court, and the Quality of those that accompanied him, being all noble and dignified Persons, by the noble appearance he made, and the richness of his Equipage, having stately Liveries, fine Coaches and Horses, like a Sovereign Prince. His Prudence was of great availment to him, in several disgusts which the Emperor's Envoy had prepared for him to spite the Pope, and for that reason, could have wish'd that the said Legate had not made such a magnificent Appearance, that the Pope might have the more disobliged the Emperor and the King of the *Romans*. But all this was quieted by the sagacity of Cardinal *Medici*, who by his great Authority, and amiable Ways, found means to reduce those to their Duty that had stray'd from it.

He retains still a particular Gratitude towards the present Pope, as being his Creator, presenting him twice every Year, at *Christmas*, and on the first of *August*, with some remarkable Piece of Gallantry, besides the abundance of Eatables he sends him. He joyns to his noble Aspect a majestick Carriage, and abstains as much as he can from speaking to those with whom he is not intimately acquainted, that he may conceal his hereditary defect of stammering in his Speech, as all those of his Family do. There is no doubt,
but

Cardinal BONCOMPAGNI. 231

but in the next Conclave he will go Hand in Hand with his Fellow Creatures, providing they don't pretend to govern him beyond Reason; but he will always have a great respect to Cardinal Ottoboni, as likewise to the Ambassador of Spain for the time being. We may apply to this Cardinal what the second Pliny said of another considerable Person. *Nerva eo ipso carus omnibus, atque desideratus, quia prospexerat ne desideraretur.*

THE
L I F E
O F
Baldassar Cenci,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* in the Month of *January* 1647, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 12th of *December* 1695.

To draw a true Model of one that is cut out for Pope, we cannot have a better Idea than from the Person of the most worthy Cardinal *Cenci*, he possessing all those Qualities that are requir'd in one to deserve justly so high a Post. He is learned to a high Degree in several Sciences, as particularly in both the Civil and Canon Law, and likewise in the School Divinity, he having for many Years together studied with the greatest nicety of speculation all the Sums of *St. Thomas Aquinas*, and at last compos'd in *Latin* Verse the Argument of each Book, with a clear-

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ness not to be parallel'd. He is also well versed in Church History, and in the Rights of the holy See, of which he is a most zealous Defender, but without shewing the least Vanity of his Zeal in that Matter.

He has a perfect Knowledge of all the Interests not only of the Christian Princes, but likewise of all the Princes of the Universe. He professes a great respect for all Sovereigns, especially such as are Catholicks; so that he cannot be suspected by any of them, nor has he ever given the least disgust to any Creature alive. He is affable, but grave, witty, modest; reserved, but courteous; obliging, without any view of Self-Interest; he is generous, laborious, cunning, but sincere; of a lovely Behaviour, of a sweet Humour, and of an unspotted Life. Even from his Youth he has always shew'd great Prudence, keeping constantly at a great Distance from any thing that might hurt his Reputation. He enter'd into Prelature when he was but a young Man, and soon acquir'd so great a Fame in the Court of Appeals, that he alone had more Causes than ten other Reporters put together. He was made a Reporter of Causes in the Congregation for the Fabrick of St. Peter's Church, and in a short time after a Judge of the said Congregation,

He was afterwards, for his Merit, sent Vice-legate to *Avignon*, where he was in the time of the greatest Ruptures between the Holy See and the Crown of *France*; which Monarch, when he had resolved to revenge himself on *Innocent* the XIth, began his Hostilities by making some of his Troops sieze upon the Bishop of *Vez-zon*, which is in the Pope's Territories of *Avignon*, who was carried into *France*, and there kept Prisoner

Prisoner for a long time. The Vice-legate, who was attentive to all that past, and lamented highly the Prejudice done to the Holy See, by the violation of its Rights both Human and Divine, did not fail to resent this Violence as he ought, but he very soon bore the Punishment of his own Zeal, being arrested by Mr. Trouvay, Commander in chief of the King's Forces that were then employed in the Conquest of *Avignon*. *Cenci* then retired to the Abbey of St. Ponce, which is in the Diocess of *Avignon*, where he continued still to exercise his Jurisdiction, having enter'd the due Protestations against such Violences, by publishing the Censures which that Commander had incurred, by his Act of Reprisal, and by his Invasion of the said State. *Cenci* continued in this Abbey till after the Death of his Holiness *Innocent* the XIth, and as soon as *Alexander* the VIIIth was elected Pope, he was immediately recalled to his proper Residence of *Avignon*; where he remained till the Exaltation of the present Pope (*), who declared him Chamberlain of his Household (†), at the Request of the two Cardinals *Cantelmi* and *Imperiali*, his intimate Friends. In the discharge of this Office he won the Hearts of all those belonging to the Palace, by his civil Behaviour, being always assiduous, always peaceable, and always obliging.

In the first Promotion of Cardinals he was not named, altho' he was retained *in petto*, yet he shew'd himself so little concern'd at the disappointment, that he was not only pitied by the whole Court

(*) *Innocent* XII,

(†) *Maestro di Camera*.

Court, who wished earnestly to see him dignified with the Purple, but even the Pope himself had some Remorse for it, being sensible of the Injury he had done him. So that two Years afterwards he declared him Cardinal, that he might be succeeded in his Office by *Monsignor Acquaviva*, whom he at first designed to send Nuncio to *Switzerland*; but changed his Mind because of the known Opposition made to it by Cardinal *Bouillon* in the Name of Cardinal *Fourbin*, who pretended that his Holiness had promised him never to employ *Neapolitans* in any Nunciature.

The same Morning that *Cenci* was made Cardinal, he was likewise declared Bishop of *Ferrara*, but soon after, at the Desire of his Relations, the Pope removed him from thence, and gave him the Archbishoprick of *Fermo*, that he might avoid the bad Air of *Ferrara*, and live more retir'd from the World; which Precaution every one ought to take who aspires to greater Preferment, that they may avoid all Occasion of giving disgust, which one very readily falls into at *Ferrara*, as Cardinal *Paulucci* has found by Experience. The Match lately concluded between this Cardinal's Brother and the Niece of Cardinal *Costaguti*, has brought this Cardinal into greater Consideration, and gives him a greater Interest, because the one and the other united together may supply all that is necessary, and what the single Interest of neither of them can do separately.

When Cardinal *Cenci* is farther grown in Years, there is none who can have fairer Pretensions to the Papacy than he, because of his great Merit. And he is of so sweet a Temper, and so civil in treating of Business, that he captivates the Hearts
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of all those he discourses with, just in the same manner as *Titus* the Emperor did, according to the Report of *Tacitus*, *Qui comitate, & alloquiis officia provocabat.* And with respect to his great Modesty, which renders him so averse from making any shew of his Learning, one would think that *Boetius* had meant of him what he says concerning such another Heroe. *Si contentus est sapiens, satis sibi amplum Theatrum est.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Taddeus Lewis del Verme,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Piacenza* the 10th of *May* 1641, and was advanced to the Cardinalship by *Innocent* the XIth the 12th of *December* 1695.

If we were to propose a Pattern to Ecclesiasticks, it is certain we could pitch upon no firmer Person for this purpose than Cardinal *del Verme*. When he was but a young Man he led a most excellent Life, accompanied with an unspeakable Modesty, and an incomparable Sweetness of Humour.

This Cardinal is pious, devout, friendly, just, and polite; sober, wise, studious, kind, zealous, and most discreet; sincere, void of Ceremony, free of Passion, no ways scrupulous, and without an Estate. But what he has he distributes
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with a pious Generosity among the Poor, and that which renders him wonderful is, that he gives his Alms in secret without Ostentation, which is the peculiar Quality of a true Servant of God. When he penetrates into any Scandal, he remedies it without making it publick, and when he discovers any Danger, he prevents it without Prejudice to any. He is frequently taken up with the charitable Acts of visiting the Sick, of relieving such as are in Prison, and assisting those that are on their Death-bed.

Nature has freely bestow'd on him the Quality of being genteel, well bred, and affable, notwithstanding the Austerity of his Life, he practising together with the other Customs of *St. Francis of Sales*, that of his sweet and gentle Carriage. The Penances which he does in secret are incredible, and sometimes his Servants and Domesticks perceive them by divers Accidents. He consumes a great part of the Night in continual Prayer, sleeping for the most part on the Tables and Chairs, and undoing his own Bed, that he may not seem to affect the Sanctimony of having lain rough.

He is competently well versed in sacred History, in the Councils, and in Cases of Conscience, but not in the other Sciences, of which he has only a bare and superficial Tincture, having applied himself to them late, he not thinking to imploy his Time in Study. He put on the Habit of the Knights of *St. Stephen*, when he was pretty far advanced in Years, and after he had worn for some time the long Robe. In the Year 1671, he went to the Emperor's Court, in the time that *Monsignor Albrizzi* his Relation was Nuncio there, with whom he continued all the time of his Nunciature, and till
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the Nuncio was made a Cardinal. And then he return'd with him to the Court of *Rome* in the Year 1675, where he was no sooner arrived, than he had a Mind to return to his own Country. But *Innocent* the XIth being advanced to the Papal Dignity, and the said Cardinal *Albrizzi* falling dangerously sick, *Del Verme* came back to *Rome* to assist him, which he did to the last Moment of his Life.

Cardinal *Albrizzi* having left him some Estate he had in *Latera* in the Patrimony of *St. Peter*, he went there several times to look after the Estate fallen to him; upon which Occasion he staid some time at *Orvieto*, where Cardinal *Mellini* was Bishop. This gave *Del Verme* the Opportunity of conversing often with Cardinal *Mellini*, by which means the Cardinal discovering his Great Ability, imployed him in several Concerns of his Diocess; in which *Del Verme* succeeded wonderfully well, because of his great Prudence and Exemplarity of Life. The said Cardinal was thereby moved to recommend him to *Innocent* the XIth his Creator, by whom he was dignified with the Church of *Fano*; in which Post his exemplary Life was more conspicuous than ever, and he let the World see that he was endow'd with all those Qualities that are necessary in a good Pastor. He continued in that Church till the present Pope, perceiving his Merit, made him Cardinal in his first Promotion. When he came to *Rome* to receive the Cardinal's Hat, he was soon provided with the Bishoprick of *Imola*, in which he continues to shew his Zeal for the Service of God, with the universal Applause of that City.

He is related to the Dutcheffs of *Latera*, from whence he derived the relation he had with
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the deceased Cardinal *Farnese*, and *Albrizzi* his Nephew. He is also related to Cardinal *Marescotti*, and to *Monsignor Pallavicini* Governour of *Rome*. It is with Respect to these Relations that we must now regulate all our political Reflexions in the Enquiry, how fair this Cardinal stands for the Papal Dignity.

To begin then with Cardinal *Farnese*, it is certain that he was excluded by the House of *Austria*, in the Vacancy of *Alexander* the VIIth. So that it was no difficult matter to make that Exclusive descend by way of Inheritance on *Albrizzi* his Nephew; who for other Reasons was excluded by the *Spaniards*, he being Brother to the Prince of *Vetrana*, who in the time of the Revolution of *Masaniello*, threw himself into *Salice*, his own Mannor where he was born, in the Country of *Otranto*, and there declared himself in favour of the People against the King's Ministers. He was excluded by the Emperor, because in the time that he was Nuncio at the Imperial Court, he discover'd too much his Inclination to the *French* Interest, and endeavour'd openly to break the League with the *Dutch*, not out of any true Zeal to the Holy See, but rather to his most Christian Majesty.

It not being probable then that the House of *Austria* will be favourable to him, because of his Relation to *Farnese* and *Albrizzi*, it follows by Consequence that he'll have the Protection of *France*. But in regard of his other Relations already mentioned, Gentlemen of great Merit, it is necessary to weigh other Circumstances.

I believe that all the Relations of *Marescotti* and *Pallavicini* will not be favourable to him, but their Enemies will not fail to oppose him.
I have

I have said enough concerning *Marescotti* in his own Life. As to *Pallavicini*, because of the great Share he would have in the Government, as well as *San Vitale* his near Relation, the Cardinals *Acciajoli*, *Carpegna*, *Tanara*, *Giudici*, and *Mellini*, together with all the Interest of Count *Martinitz*, and others their Friends, would openly oppose him, as being avowed Enemies to the Governour of *Rome*. In consideration of whom this Cardinal can never expect to have the House of *Austria* favourable to his Interest, altho' even he should be assisted by *Grimani*, his most partial Friend, the Governour being reputed favourable to *France*.

Barberini, who with the Cardinal Dean his Uncle, and those of his Squadron, concurr'd to the Exaltation of *Farnese*, will not heartily join in the Advancement of *del Verme*, altho' his Relation. *Ottoboni* being of a quite contrary Humour to this Cardinal, will always exclude him; and much more will *Bichi* be his Enemy, because of the Dependance this Cardinal has on *Marescotti* and *Capizucchi*, to whom *Bichi* is an irreconcilable Enemy.

On the contrary, the Faction of *Altieri*, in memory of *Albrizzi* his most beloved Creature, will assist him all that is possible; but the known hatred that is between *Carpegna* and *Pallavicini* may disturb, or cool the Zeal of this Faction for this Cardinal's Interest. The Zealots, without doubt, will concur to his Advancement, he being of their Sect, and a good Disciple of the Party.

The greatest Difficulty then consists in obtaining the Emperor's Consent, together with the King of *Spain's*, with whom 'tis probable that the Dutchess of *Parma*, their Sister in Law, will

use her Endeavours to procure their Concurrence in behalf of this Cardinal, her most devoted Subject. Besides, I don't see why an innocent Man ought to suffer for other Peoples Faults; and I don't think that any Prince will readily make himself Author of an unjust Exclusion, especially of so venerable a Person as this Cardinal, notwithstanding the vulgar Reproach of his being but little skilled in Political Government, in which he has given great Proof to the contrary; altho' in the Opinion of *Lipsius*, *Hebetiores quam acutiores ut plurimum melius Rempublicam administrant.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Thomas Mary Ferrari,

A Dominican Fryar :

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Mandura* in the Country of *Otranto*, the second of *November* 1649; and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XII.* on the 12th of *December* 1695.

He is descended of Parents of a mean Condition, who not having any temporal Estate to leave him, were the more careful to put him in the way of acquiring a spiritual Treasure, bringing him up with Sentiments of great Christian Piety. He had from his Cradle a great Devotion for our Lady of the *Rosary*, and was constantly on his Knees before her Image in the Church of the *Dominican Fryars* in the ancient City of *Manduria*, which is now reduc'd to a little Borough with the corrupted Name of *Man-*
dura,

dura, under the Dominion of the House of *Imperiali*, Marquisses of *Francavilla*. When he was but fourteen Years of Age, he enter'd himself a Fryar with the *Dominicans*, among whom he has always liv'd an exemplary Life, observing strictly the Rules of his Order, and applying himself wholly to the School, and to the Quire.

He excell'd in the speculative Learning, for which reason, in process of time, after he had ended his Studies, he was made Regent at *Naples*. Cardinal *Imperiali*, Uncle to the Baron in whose Lands *Ferrari* was born, at the time that he was of the Treasury, having talk'd to *Innocent* the XIth, of the said *Ferrari*'s Merit, this was a sufficient Motive for the Pope to send him Regent to *Bolonia*; that he might reduce the Convents of his Order in that City, and the Parts adjacent, to a stricter Observance of their Rules, in which they were something slackened. He having happily succeeded in this, he was in Recompence call'd to *Rome*, and made Master of the Sacred Palace, after the Promotion of Father *Capi-zucchi*.

In the Exercise of this important Ministry, he gave frequent Proofs of his great Virtue and Goodness, which good Qualities appear'd still more in him, when, Father *Recanati*, because of his Indisposition, not being able to exercise his Function of Apostolical Preacher in the latter Years of that Holy Pope, this Father *Ferrari* was forc'd to supply his place; and preaching only a few days before the Pope and the Sacred College, he got great Renown, and was highly applauded by them all. He continued to exercise the same Function in the time of the following Pope *Ortoboni*, till Father *Candiotto*, of the Order call'd *Minori Osservanti*, was declar'd Apostolical Preacher.

Father

Father *Ferrari* being Master of the Sacred Palace when the present Pope * was exalted to the Throne, his Holiness had very soon Proofs of his Learning, both in the Matters touching the famous Regale, as likewise concerning the depriving those Bishops of their Churches, who were present at the detestable Assembly of the Clergy of *France* in 1682, and in many other Conjunctions in the Service of the Holy See, for which he was in the first Promotion dignified with the Sacred Purple. But the Pope by naming him Cardinal got no great Credit, he not having the Qualification of being Noble, which is necessary in whoever is not singular for his Learning, as this Cardinal is not, if we believe the slanderous Report of the Fathers of his own Order. Then the *Neapolitans* clamour'd hugely against it, they thinking his Holiness was bound to advance to that Dignity some Gentlemen of the first Quality. The Nobility was so exasperated at this, that they procur'd the Expulsion of *Monsignor Gilberti* Bishop of *Cava*, refusing to bear any longer with the Inquisition, from which arose the known Differences of the City of *Naples* with the Congregation of the Holy Office, and consequently with the Holy See.

But to return to Cardinal *Ferrari*, it is certain, that he is not universally Learned, but only has a competent Knowledge of the School Divinity, of the Fathers, of the Canons, and Councils, and is pretty well versed in Church History. He has no great Genius, but an indifferent Capacity, and weak Parts; he is laborious, affable, studi-

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ous,

* *Innocent* XII.

ous, and devout, but rigid, nice, and zealous. He is very saving in his Expences, reserved to any that treat with him, and wholly averse to engage himself for others, seeking only his own Interest; for which reason Cardinal *Albani* told him once on this Subject, That he was very much like a Jesuit, altho' a great Enemy to their Order.

He is in other respects a very good Monk, notwithstanding he shew'd himself revengeful with an Haughtiness inseparable from those of his Nation, when he desir'd the Abbot *Savelli* might be punish'd, (which accordingly he was by being confined to his House) for no other Crime, but for having order'd to be taken away from before the Door of his House, two of the Cardinal's Horses, which hinder'd him from going either out or in. In the Causes concerning Sovereign Princes, he shews himself most Petulant, speaking with great Freedom, nay, some times railing at them impudently, thinking by this great Zeal for the Interest of the Church, to acquire Merit for attaining to the Triple Crown.

At present he is too young, but however at a distance he takes his Measures to arrive at the desir'd Haven of *St. Peter's* Chair; and the Zealots who have a mind to get him over to their Party, feed him with all the Hopes he desires, telling him, that he is a great Plant of the *Vatican*, and that to become Pope, he wants nothing but a few more Years; that otherwise he has all the Qualifications necessary for a good Vicar of Christ, being belov'd by all, and mistrusted by none. So that this Cardinal in Gratitude, will submit himself always to the Will of the Zealots, in so far only as his own Interest is concern'd, that being the sole Object of his Zeal; for otherwise he is capable of standing solely by himself

self, having neither Sympathy nor Adherence with any one, and having a Head hard enough to butt against them all. Nay, he does not so much as shew the least Concern for the Interests of the King of *Spain* his own Sovereign; and he will never unite with the *Spaniards*, except in what will turn to his own Advantage. It is for the Virtuoso's alone that he shews any thing of Concern; so that in this respect it seems as if *Seneca* had spoke of him when he said, *Scias ipsum plurimis virtutibus abundare*. Then as to the other Circumstances, that seems to be verified in him which *Valerius Maximus* said of *Tully*, *Nomen suum Tusculi ignobile, Rome nobilissimum reddidit*.

THE
LIFE

OF

Joseph Sacripante,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Narni* the 19th of *March* 1642, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 12th of *December* 1695.

Altho' this Cardinal is but of mean Extraction, yet with his good Carriage, and great Application to Study, he made such advances, and particularly in the Profession of the Law here in *Rome*, that he was at last, in the time of *Innocent* the XIth, made Under-Datary in the room of *Monsignor Liberati*, when he was declared Datary, upon the Promotion of Cardinal *Agostini*. After the Death of that Holy Pope, he was confirmed in the said Office by *Alexander* the VIIIth his Successor, as likewise by the present Pope, who took a most extraordinary Affection to him, from the time that he composed, with great care and assiduity, all those great Bulls which
his

his Holiness publish'd in the first Years of his Pontificate; altho' in Effect, he drew them up but after an indifferent manner, and in pure Law Terms, without any great Thought, or Politeness of Language, but rather, as *Pasquin* said, after the manner of the Apostles, *per vocabolos grossos*.

Besides, his Holiness took him still more and more into Favour, when out of spite to Cardinal *Panciatichi*, who would needs have *Monsignor Fabroni* to continue still Secretary of the Memorials, after he was declared Secretary of the Congregation for propagating the Faith, he gave to *Sacripante* the Secretary's Place of the Memorials for the time, which he administer'd with great Applause, till the Place was disposed of to *Monsignor Gozzadini*. *Sacripante* having, upon this Occasion, several times taken the defence of the Cardinal Datary, the Pope conceived a great Opinion of his Sanctity, seeing him without the least Tincture of Revenge against his Enemies. In his first Promotion therefore, his Holiness dignified him with the Purple, to the great Admiration, and even Murmuring of every body, he having no singular Merit to recommend him to that Honour.

He was no sooner made Cardinal than he swell'd in such a manner with his Purple Dignity, that at the Instigation of the Abbot *Doti*, he made himself Head of the strictest Observance of the ancient Ceremonial of the Sacred College, and being backed by his own Creatures, he denied to the Ambassador of *Malta*, the usual Treatment given him by others, refusing to give him the Title of Excellence, or to receive the Message from his House, when he was coming to visit him. This Novelty, as it gave

gave great Offence to all the Nobility of the Catholick World, so it produced great Hatred and Heart-burning against his Eminence; who nevertheless was supported by his Creator, who gave him the Prefecture of the Congregation for explaining the Council of *Trent*, and declared him Protector of the Carmelite Fryars.

This Cardinal, seeing himself in Favour with his Holiness, did not fail to make use of his great Power and Interest. For having renounced his Office of Advocate of the Consistory, in Favour of his Brother, whose Mother-in-law hapning afterwards to die, he procured a Canon's Place of *St. Peter's* to be given to the Widower *Veturii*, his Brother's Father-in-law, that he being bound up from marrying again by this tie to the Priesthood, his Brother might come to inherit all his Estate, which was look'd upon to be the greatest that any Gentleman at *Narni* had. In all the Sciences this Cardinal pretends to talk magisterially, and is very angry when he meets with any body that opposes his Sentiments, and if he add any reply in defence of them, he uses even harsh Expressions against the Person that contradicts him; being not only obstinate in adhering to his own Opinion, but likewise desirous to propagate it among others.

He is otherwise a Man of a good Life, well bred, and inclined to Justice and Piety; nevertheless, he being of a mean Birth, and having too great Presumption, is not much beloved at Court, and the rather, because of his rigour and scrupulosity in the Use of the Ceremonies in his Visits, and of his dryness in Compliments in his Letters, he using no other Terms of Civility than if he were the late Cardinal *Infant*. He has contracted a Friendship with Cardinal *San Cesareo*, Chamberlain of the Holy

Holy See, thinking to govern him after his own way; but that cunning and politick Cardinal flatters him, by complying sometime with his weak side, that he may be the better able to bring him over to his Will. He treats very well, altho' he is covetous for his Relations. He is heady, obstinate, humourfom, angry, reserved, and averfe to do any Service.

Altho' he is an Enemy to the Jefuites, yet he frequents on the *Fridays* in their Church the Devotion of a happy Death, that he may oblige them, contrary to Juftice, to propagate his Fame, and that he may have the greater applaufe of being thought worthy of the Triple Crown. It was with this view, that he fettled a Correspondence with the *French* Miffionaries of St. *John* and St. *Paul*, over whom he pretends to have greater Authority than *Monsignor Fabroni*, for dilating the Miffions in the *Levant*, in *China*, in *Ethiopia*, and in the *Indies*. By this means with the Affiftance of Father *Agostino*, of *Santa Sabina*, and of the late Archpriest *Pamiers*, now a Monk of the faid Convent, he endeavours to get into Favour with the *French* Nation, in whose Eyes he is defirous to appear to be the only Promoter and Defender of the Miffionaries, and even Arbiter of the faid Miffions. He pretends to have the Glory of being the only and firft Cardinal in the Chriftian World, that has been fet over that holy Miniftry; altho' at the fame time, he does great Prejudice to the Reputation of the Orders of the faid Miffionaries, by the bad choice he makes of the Perfons fent on the Miffions.

This Cardinal is moreover a Man of great Application, attentive, ftudious, active, and zealous. It is true, that he carries it a little too high, but that

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that is only to bear up the Dignity of the Cardinalship, which is indeed but too much debased by the Defects and Omissions of others; altho' malicious People are apt to construe it as too nauseous a Presumption in him, to carry it at so high a rate in his Post, considering the lowness of his Extraction. However, his innocent Life and Conversation, and his great Learning, not only excuse him for this at the Hands of understanding Men, but likewise make him greatly admir'd; and the more, because according to the Saying of the Poet,

*Et Genus, Et Proavos, Et quæ non fecimus ipsi,
Vix ea nostra voco.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Henry Norris;
An Augustin Fryar,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Verona*, the nine and twentieth of *August* 1631; and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 12th of *December* 1695.

This Cardinal was not Noble by Birth; but after his Promotion to the Cardinalship, he was receiv'd into the number of the Nobles of his own Country. His Father wrote the History of the Wars of *Germany* in his Days. He himself, when he was but young, put on the Habit of the Hermites of *St. Augustin*. For the Conveniency of his Studies, he staid some time at *Pesaro*, as he did afterwards at *Rome*, under the Pontificate of *Innocent* the Xth. He made so great progress in Learning and Virtue, that the General of his Order made choice of him, to be Regent of the Studies

Studies in the *Augustin* Convent at *Padoua*; where he continu'd for several Years, and there compos'd his so much applauded Book, called *Historia Pelagiana, & Vindictæ Augustiniana*; by which Performance, as soon as it appear'd in Print, he acquir'd an extraordinary Reputation among all the Learned Men in *Europe*. Before the Book was printed, the Inquisitor General would needs send it to *Rome*, to have it there minutely examin'd by the Inquisition, at the time that the deceased Cardinal *Casanatta* was Assessor there; who gave notice to the Author, that he ought to come in Person to *Rome*, to remove some Difficulties that were started concerning his Book. Upon this Intimation, Father *Norris* came to *Rome*, and having soon vanquish'd all the Obstacles to the publishing of his Book, he shew'd himself, on that occasion, to be a Man of great Learning; for which the Pope rewarded him with the specious Title of *Qualificator of the Inquisition*.

Father *Norris* returning after this to *Padoua*, receiv'd Complements of Congratulation from the greater part of all the Academies of Learning, and especially from Foreign Countries. The Fame of his great Learning having reached the Ears of the great Duke of *Tuscany*, he, of his own free Motion, called him to the University of *Pisa*; where he made him Professor of Church History, and gave him a considerable Sallary. Here he had occasion to shew his profound Learning in all Sciences; and while he was explaining to Prince *Ferdinand* the two famous Sepulchral Stones in the Burying Place of *Pisa*, he compos'd that famous Book of his, which is entitled *Cenotaphia Pisana*, and which was printed at *Venice* in the Year 1682. This Work of his rais'd his Reputation not only with the great Duke

Duke of *Tuscany*, and all his Court, but likewise with all the learned Men beyond the *Alps*; so that his great Fame was very soon spread over all the Corners of the learned World.

Innocent the XIth having in that Year made his first Promotion of sixteen Cardinals, among whom was included Cardinal *Lauria*, who had been first Keeper of the *Vatican* Library; and the deceased Abbot *Gradi* having been removed, on this occasion, from the Post of second Keeper, to that of first Keeper of the said Library; the second Keeper's Place, that was by this means vacant, was, by the Pope's special Order, offer'd to Father *Norris*; who notwithstanding that the Offer came from the Pope, refused the said Employment, under Pretext that he was not willing to abandon his Chair in the University of *Pisa*. So that, he continu'd in *Tuscany*, growing always more and more in esteem with the great Duke, with his Sons the Princes, and all the chief Ministers of that Court. The great Duke, to shew the great Confidence he had in this Father's Learning, imploy'd him to make choice of, and to adjust many rare and valuable Medals which he had receiv'd from *Spain*. About this time, Father *Norris* printed at *Florence* that most learned Book of his *De Epochis Syro-macedonum*; in which he shew'd his profound Learning in the most intricate Matters. *Innocent* the XIIth being exalted to St. *Peter's* Throne, and *Monsignor Casani* the Pope's Sacristain being dead, the said Office was proffer'd to Father *Norris*, (it belonging of course to an *Augustin* Fryar) altho' his Holiness did not know this Father any otherway than by Fame; but Father *Norris* excused himself from accepting it, for the Reasons already mentioned.

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The first Keeper's Place of the *Vatican* Library hapening afterwards to fall void, by the Death of Canon *Scelestrat*, it was immediately offer'd to Father *Norris*, who refus'd it, as he had done the second Keeper's Place before. But the great Duke exhorting him to accept of such an honourable Post, and which might turn to his great Advantage, he at last accepted of the Proffer, and came to *Rome* in the Year 1692, where he liv'd in his Convent belonging to the *Augustin* Fryars, and waited punctually in his Post at the *Vatican* Library on the Days appointed. The Pope, much about this time, imploy'd him to put down in writing his Opinion concerning several dogmatical Points, which were then in Controversie, and were of great Moment for the Holy See. His Holiness very soon afterwards offer'd him the Post of Counsellor to the Inquisition, which he immediately refused, under pretext of the constant Attendance he was obliged to by his Office of Library Keeper; so that he pretended he could not serve his Holiness in both these great Offices at the same time. But the Pope having resolved to promote him to the Dignity of a Cardinal, would needs have him, notwithstanding any Excuse to the contrary, to accept of this Office of Counsellor to the Inquisition, that he might honour him the more in order to his being advanced to a more eminent Post.

At that time some of the Jesuites, who were great Enemies to Father *Norris*, printed a Pamphlet against him, under the Title of *Scruples*, wherein they pretend to demonstrate, that Father *Norris*, in his History of *Pelagianism*, had misrepresented the true Christian Doctrine. But he valiantly defended himself in that excellent Treatise which he wrote *ex tempore*, and entitled *Disserta-*

tio Historica, &c. It was printed at Rome, in the Press belonging to the College for propagating the Faith, and in several other Places. This Book of the Jesuites was not of any avail to hinder Father *Norris's* Advancement to the Purple Dignity, which he so well deserv'd; no more than the Accusation brought against him, of his maintaining all the Doctrines of the *Gallican Church*, the present Pope * having effectually conquered all the Difficulties that were raised, concerning the Promotion of those Persons who had assisted at the Assembly of the Clergy of France, held at Paris in the Year 1682. The deceased Cardinal *Casanatta* was likewise accused of the same Heterodoxy. But the more that Father *Norris's* Enemies strove to discredit him with the Pope, the more earnest was his Holiness to make him a Cardinal, which he did very soon after in his first Promotion.

The Jesuites were much confounded at the News of this Father's Promotion to the Cardinalship; they having not long before, in Conjunction with the Monks called *Minori Osservanti*, endeavour'd to blast his Reputation, by accusing him of manifold Heresie. And one of these Monks, Father *Macedo* by name, who is since dead, a Man of Learning, and who had been first a Jesuite, wrote a Book, to which he gave the Title of *Norreism*; in which he pretended to prove, that Father *Norris* was a *Jansenist*, an *Arrian*, a *Calvinist*, a *Lutheran*, and in a word, guilty of all manner of Heresie. But *Signor Archinto* wrote a most learned Book in defence of Father *Norris*, which

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* *Innocent XII.*

he caused to be printed at *Milan*, but without any Name to it; in which he confuted, by evident Demonstration, and strong Reasoning, all those malicious Accusations brought against the said Father, and shew'd them to be meer Calumnies. Father *Norris* taking all these Persecutions much to heart, resolved to retire to *Florence*, there to lead a quiet religious Life, to spend his time wholly in Study and Meditation, and to end his Days peaceably within the Walls of a Cloyster. For this Reason, he supplicated his Holiness to accept of his Dimission of his Offices, and to grant him leave to return to *Tuscany*; which he so earnestly desir'd. But the Pope gave him an absolute Denial, he having already firmly resolv'd to promote him very speedily to the Purple.

It is certain, that this Cardinal is most learned in all the Sciences, having a profound Knowledge in all manner of Learning, whether Sacred, or Prophane. He is excellently well read in all sort of History, in the Canons, in the Councils, in School Divinity, and likewise in Politicks, he being very well vers'd in the Maxims of *Tacitus*, as well as in the Holy Scriptures. Besides, he has made it his particular Study, to confute the Errors of the *Jews* in their *Talmud*, as well as those of *Mahomet* in his *Alcoran*; and there is not a Statesman in *Venice* that goes beyond him in his Remarks on *Bodinus*, and on *Machiavel*.

This Cardinal is moreover a very good Fryar, not foolishly scrupulous, but altogether without Scandal, of an unspotted Life, observing religiously all the Rules of his Order. He is of a free easie Carriage, chearful, and pleasant; he is cunning, of great Application, and quick-sighted; he is studious, indefatigable, and discreet. But
his

his Enemies, on the other hand, tax him with want of Sincerity, and represent him as a great Dissembler, and much given to caballing. He has likewise been reputed as ungrateful, especially when he opposed the great Duke of *Tuscany* his Benefactor, in an Affair he had before the Inquisition, and on some other Occasions, altho' he pretended to his Royal Highness to have been highly partial in his Favour. This Instance of his Ingratitude to the great Duke, has, in all Appearance, made his Fidelity be call'd in question, not only by the Crown'd Heads, but also by the Cardinals that are his Friends; so that they dare hardly venture to trust him, in case they should raise him to a higher Post.

In all his Pretensions, he will have the Jesuites in particular, and likewise the Zealots, for his most bitter Enemies, as also all the Adversaries of the deceased Cardinal *Casanatta*, because of the great Dependance which Cardinal *Norris* had on him. The Princes of the House of *Austria* suspect him of being a great deal too much inclin'd to the *French* Interest. And, in all likelihood, the *French* will press his Exaltation with great Warmth; in which they will have the Assistance of the *Venetians*, Cardinal *Norris* being their Darling; and, no doubt, Cardinal *Ottoboni* will likewise be for him, preferably to any other Cardinal, except his own Creatures. It is not probable, that *Don Livio Odescalchi* will be against him, his Uncle *Innocent* the XIth, having shew'd a Willingness to advance this Cardinal's Fortune. And it is certain, that he will be favour'd by his own Fellow-Creatures of the *Pignatellian* Faction, because of his easie Temper, and the probability they may have of sharing with him in the Government.

260 *The LIFE of, &c.*

In fine, were not this Cardinal a Fryar, and what is more, of one of the Orders that wear the wide Sleeves, he might justly hope to wear the Triple Crown, as probably as any of the Cardinals that are the fairest for it, he being capable to govern a World. Besides, that for his great Learning, he deserves the Title heretofore given by St. *Ferome* to St. *Ennodius*. *Vir immensæ lectionis*. Or we may justly apply to him, the Encomium that was formerly given to *Elbolensis*. *Totum quod scibile scivit*.

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THE
L I F E
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George Cornaro,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Venice* the 17th of *July* 1657;
was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth
the 22d of *July* 1697.

After having ended the Course of his Studies
in *Padoua*, under the Instruction of Father *Roton-*
di, (now General of the *Minori Conventuali* *)
he travell'd over all *Europe*, and made some con-
siderable Stay in *France*, in *Spain*, and in *Portu-*
gal. Being return'd back to his Native Country
he put on the Senator's Robe, and was soon made
one of the *Savii*, and afterwards was named by
the Senate Superintendant over the Arsenal, in the
Discharge of which Office he gave great Proofs
of his Prudence, his Ability, and his Applicati-
on. For these his good Qualities he was destin'd
and elected Ambassador to the Court of *France*,
S 3 which

* A sort of Reformed *Franciscans*.

which he being unwilling to accept of because of the excessive Charges, and likewise for some other just Reasons, he exempted himself from it by putting on the Ecclesiastical Habit, which he took in *Padoua*, together with the first Tonsure, from the Hands of the late Cardinal *Barbarigo*, Bishop of the Place, of happy Memory, on the last Day of the Year 1689.

When *Alexander* the VIIIth, his Countryman, was exalted to the Papal Dignity, he resolv'd to come to *Rome*, as he did in the Year 1690. He then bought the Place of President of the Treasury (†), that he might wear the Purple Habit of a Prelate. He purchas'd likewise afterwards the Place of one of the Apostolick Protonotaries participating of the Fees, and in the mean while exercis'd the Office of Reporter of Causes, both in the Court of Appeals (*), and in that appointed for the Distribution of Graces and Favours (†). He afterwards obtain'd to be made a Reporter of Causes in the Congregation for Rites and Ceremonies, and also Keeper of the Records in the Vatican. The same Year he was sent by Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth to be Commissary of Health in the Province of *Ancona*, in which Post he continued not only all the time of *Ottoboni's* Life, but even after his Death, till the Election of a Successor. And when the now reigning Pope *Pignatelli* was elected, he declar'd him Nuncio to *Portugal*, (all Suspicion of any Contagion being ceased) and that in Reward of his having govern'd the Province of *Ancona* with great Vigilancy, and universal Applause, there never having been the least Complaint against him.

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(†) *Camera Apostolica.* (*) *Segnatura di Justitia.* (†) *Segnatura di Gratia.*

He came to *Rome* to put himself in order for his Journey, and departed from hence very soon to *Lisbon*, on the last Day of *May* 1692, where he arrived in the beginning of *July*. Having continued the Space of Five Years in that Nunciature, he was dignified with the Cardinalship, to gratify the Republick of *Venice*, in the Promotion made for the Crowns. He had for his Competitors in this Promotion the Patriarch *Badoer*, who was recommended with too much Vehemence by the Zealots, and *Monsignor Priuli*, Auditor of the *Rota*, protected with no less Zeal by the *Altierian* Faction, and by several Creatures of other Popes. But his Holiness preferred *Cornaro* to the other two, barely at the Instance of the Cardinals *Panciatichi* and *Albani*, who were desirous to advance one that would be a Dependant of their own Creator's, and insinuated to the Pope, that he ought not to promote the other two, lest he should thereby strengthen the other Factions, which plausible Pretext took with his Holiness, he not perceiving nor considering that *Cornaro* would be no sooner promoted than he would list himself under the Banner of Cardinal *Ottoboni*.

Such a Rebound of Fortune has not been seen for a long time in *Rome*, never since the Practice of the Venality of Offices, abolish'd long ago; this Cardinal having been only Seven Years between laying aside the Sword, and putting on the Purple. He has no great Learning, not having had time to prosecute his Studies; being employed in the Service of his Republick; but he is well read in History, and better instructed in Political Matters, and in the several Interests of all the States of the Universe. He is of a sweet Temper, easie, loving, agreeable, and affable; this renders him liable to be impos'd upon by his own Dome-

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sticks, and particularly by his Nephew the Abbot, who with his excessive Oeconomy makes the Cardinal sometimes get the Character of being covetous. He is otherwise much a Gentleman, is punctual, discreet, prudent, and well bred.

As soon as he arriv'd at *Rome*, his Holiness provided him with the rich Bishoprick of *Padoua*, and he took for his Title of Cardinal, the Church of the Holy Apostles, which is the principal Church of the *Minori Conventuali*, that he might shew his Gratitude and Esteem to the General of their Order, who had been his Master. He had afterwards bestow'd on him the rich Abbey of *St. Andrea del Bosco*, in the *Venetian Territories*, the Pope not having been able to give it to Cardinal *Grimani*, as he inclin'd; the said Cardinal not being then restor'd into Favour with his own Republick, but he assign'd him out of the said Abbey a competent Pension. Upon this *Cornaro* was made Knight of *Malta*, because of a rich *Commendam* in the Patronage of his own Family. At present he is wholly intent on the good Government and Care of his Flock, leading an exemplary Life, tho' without any Rigor or Austerity, quite contrary to the free Life of his Uncle that was Bishop of *Padoua*, Predecessor to the foremention'd Cardinal *Barbarigo*.

Finally, to return to the great Fortune of this Cardinal, he is a clear Instance; that sometimes the shunning Fortune in one place is the ready way to meet her in another; which gives me occasion to apply to him that excellent Maxim of *Aristotle*, *Præcipua dignitas est, non fungi bonore, sed aliis dignum honore judicari.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Peter Coislin,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *France*, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XII*th the 22d of *July* 1665.

He is come of one of the most noble, and most honourable Families in the Province of *Britany*. His Father's Father, who was Knight of the Order of the Holy Ghost, was dignified with several of the most considerable Charges in the Kingdom, which his Father, who was Nephew to the great Cardinal *Richelieu*, could not inherit, he having been killed in a Battel in *Flanders*. His eldest Brother is Duke and Peer of *France*. His Grandfather by the Mother's Side was the renowned great Chancellour *Seguier*. In his younger Days he followed his Studies with great Application in the *Sorbonne*, where at last he commenced Doctor, having made great Progress in the Study of Divinity, Church History, in the sacred Canons, and in Morality, in all which he is learned to a high Degree. Even from his Youth he has lived a most exemplary Life, for which

which the King, of his own Motion, dignified him at first with the Bishoprick of *Orleans*, and afterwards with that most honourable Charge of first Almoner, and last of all with the Royal Nomination to the Cardinal's Dignity, after the Death of *Monsignor Harlai* Archbishop of *Paris*. So that in the first Promotion of Cardinals at the Instance of the Crowns, he was honoured with this Dignity upon the Recommendation of his most Christian Majesty.

We may very justly give this Cardinal the Encmium of being one of the first Ecclesiasticks in *France*, and there is no Bishop that is more attentive to the good Government of his Diocese, notwithstanding he is obliged as chief Almoner to assist at Divine Service in the Royal Chapel much oftner than he would. There is not one in the Court, nay not in the whole Kingdom, that is more liberal in giving Alms to the poor than he is. Besides, he is so intirely kind and obliging, that he never knew what it was to give a Denial to any that had Recourse to his protection. His great Civility to all mankind, together with the Innocence of his unspotted Life, makes him highly esteem'd over all *France*, as also his great Generosity, he living like a Prince. He is therefore most generous, affable, ingenuous, well-bred, obliging, wise and most sincere and cordial in his Friendship. And if ever he come to *Rome*, as he says he will in this holy Year, his bare Physiognomy will serve as Interpreter to make every Body admire the Perfections of his great Soul. Besides that in his goodly Presence, altho' he is excessively corpulent, is verified the old Proverb, that *speciosa forma muta commendatio est*.

Among his other many great Qualities, the Splendor of his Table, which he keeps at *Ver-*
sailles

saillies Morning and Evening, is very remarkable, he assigning for that use two thousand Crowns a Month, which he reckons a small Expence, in comparison of the great Advantage he receives, from the chearful and innocent Conversation he procures to himself by this means. By this his splendid, and at the same time innocent way of living, he gives to us to understand, that the Frequency of Feasts and Entertainments, in one who uses them with that Prudence and Discretion that he does, is not always repugnant to a holy and exemplary Life. He is prodigal, 'tis true, but highly to be commended for his Prodigality, it being a difficult matter to find any one Person that lavishes away so much Money, with so good a Design, and upon so good Uses as he does; for in the Opinion of Tully, *Difficile est virtutes retinere inter secunda vitia.*

THE
LIFE
OF

Fabricius Paulucci.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Forli* the first of *April* 1651, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the 22d of *July* 1697.

The unfortunate Death of the late *Monignor Paulucci*, Brother to this Cardinal, and one of the Judges of the Courts of Appeals and Requests, * was the Occasion of this Cardinal's Fortune. His Brother three Years ago returning from *Albano*, in the Coach of *Monignor D'Asie* Com-military of Arms, and seeing the Horses unruly, having got the Head, he threw himself out of the Coach in the Night time, and dashing his Head against a Rock, with the Violence of the Blow

* Segnatura di Giustizia, e di Gratia.

Blow he remain'd Speechless. This unfortunate Accident having rais'd the Pope's Compassion towards his Family, he resolv'd to imploy this Cardinal, Brother to the deceased, at that time Bishop of *Macerata*, having had a good Character of him from *Monignor Fabroni*, his intimate Acquaintance ever since they were School-fellows together in the Roman College. Having finished his Studies in the said College, he return'd to his native Country, where he lived for many Years a retired and exemplary Life.

In the time of *Innocent* the XIth, this Cardinal having been recommended to him by some of the Friars, whom they call *Barboni* from their long Beards, his Holiness gave him the foresaid Church of *Macerata* in the Province of *Ancona*; where he continued always to exercise the Duties of a zealous Pastor, till he was called by the present Pope * to a higher Fortune, he sending him Nuncio to *Cologne*. In that Post he carried himself very well, getting the Love and Esteem of every Body; his Piety in particular being highly applauded, not only by the Catholics, but likewise by the Hereticks, with whom he treated always in civil and obliging Terms. But above all, he shew'd great Prudence and Policy, in forbearing to meddle in the important Point of the new Electorate, which was then hotly debating in the Diet of *Ratisbone*, that he might not give Occasion of Distrust to any of the contending Parties.

After the Death of *John* the IIIrd King of *Poland*, *Frederick Augustus* Elector of *Saxony* being rais'd to that Throne, his Holiness sent this Cardinal Nuncio extraordinary to that Court,
at

* *Innocent XII.*

at the Request of the said *Monfignor Fabroni*, his chief Friend, in order to qualifie him with this new Honour for receiving the Cardinalship with greater Applause. The Motive of this Nunciature was, to pacifie the Troubles of that Kingdom, and to reconcile the new King to the Cardinal Primate, and other Grandees of *Poland*, who had opposed his Election, having been won by the Abbot *Polignac* Ambassador from *France*, who had used his utmost Endeavours to confirm the invalid Election of the Prince of *Conti*. The Nuncio had likewise special Order from the Pope to reunite all the Palatines, and other Grandees of *Poland* and *Lithuania*, both of the one and the other Party, which accordingly happen'd at the Suggestion of the Nuncio in *Lowitz*, the Residence of the said Primate of the Kingdom, Archbishop of *Gnesna*, at present Cardinal *Radziouski*, without meddling in the least with the matter of greatest Importance concerning our holy Catholick Faith.

It is certain, that *Paulucci* would have done great Service in *Poland* to the cause of God, the Interest of the Holy See, and to the Quiet of that Kingdom, if his too eager Desire of returning to *Rome*, in hopes of his being suddenly promoted to the Cardinalship, had not made him precipitate these Affairs, which by his hasty Departure remained unfinished, as to what concerned the maintaining of our holy Catholick Faith in that Kingdom, with the Territories adjacent, and the restoring the same in *Saxony*. To this the Nuncio might have contributed greatly upon the occasion of the King's Coronation, if he had contracted with him, as he ought to have done, and the more, because of his Majesty's good Intentions towards the Church, rather than to have

have been so over-hasty in acknowledging him for lawful King, without drawing from him first those Promises, which he would have kept in case they had been agreed on before-hand. He spent considerably of his own in that extraordinary Nunciature for the short time he was there, altho' his Holiness gave him two thousand Pistols towards his Charges. He added likewise to his Generosity, Civility and Piety, for which he was eminent as well as for many other Moral Virtues; so that the *Polanders* loved and adored him, and were greatly concern'd at his leaving them.

At *Vienna* in his Return to *Rome*, he was not receiv'd with those Demonstrations of Affection and Esteem, that he pretended to be due to him, which was occasion'd by some of the Emperor's Ministers, who accused him of having shewn in *Poland* a greater Partiality of Genius to the Crown of *France*, than to the House of *Austria*. In *Rome* he was rather blamed than applauded, he not having settled any one of the six Points absolutely necessary for the Service of God, and the Interest of the Holy See, altho' they were all express'd in his Instructions. The first thing they recommended to him was, that the King of *Poland* should first promise to the Pope, to observe the Articles already agreed upon with the Republick of *Poland* concerning Religion. Secondly, that the King should publish Liberty of Conscience in *Saxony*, and open publickly some Church for the Catholics in *Dresden*, and in *Leipzig*. The third Point recommended to him, was to hinder the Nomination and Confirmation of those Bishops in *Poland*, whose Election the Pope had already judged to be Simoniackal. The fourth Article of his Instructions, was
not

not to throw himself in the Arms of the Cardinal Primate; which he did to his great Discredit, because of the much greater the said Cardinal Primate was in, on the account of his loose Life, and likewise because that Cardinal had sold himself intirely to the *French* Interest. Fifthly, that he ought to oblige the King to make a new Abjuration in publick, before he acknowledged his Royal Authority in order to remove the Doubts already raised about the Validity of the first Abjuration; and that he ought also to get the King to swear anew to the Articles agreed on, which by the Republick of *Poland* were first sworn to before the Holy Sacrament, exposed for that end in the Cathedral Church of *Warsaw*. And that he ought especially to get the Articles subscribed by General *Flemming* the King's Deputy, altho' a *Lutheran*. The Sixth Article of his Instructions, was to stipulate the Conversion of the Queen, that the Church might be secure of her Religion, as also of the Education of her Son, since the Municipal Constitutions of that Republick require, that the Queen should be a Catholick. But of this and of all the other forementioned Particulars, *Paulucci* did not make the least mention, because of his furious haste to return to *Rome*.

In other Respects, this Cardinal is a mighty good natured Gentleman, and an excellent Prelate, but no great Politician; altho' he is pretty well instructed in the Interests of Princes. He is sufficiently learned, and a good Moralist, he is quiet, genteel, compassionate, and charitable, For these good Qualities, his Holiness very soon declared him Cardinal, on the 19th of *November* 1698, having retained him in his Breast at the Promotion, of the 22d of *July* the Year before

fore. He was soon after provided with the Church of *Ferrara*, which he would have willingly exchanged for some Prefecture, that he might stay at *Rome*, and this he endeavour'd to obtain, but without effect. Upon his arrival at his Bishoprick, he met with some Disgust in visiting the Ladies of that place, upon the account of some Partiality us'd by him, perhaps innocently, but it was taken in a contrary Sense by the opposite Party. In conclusion, altho' he is not a great Statesman, nor of extraordinary Parts, nevertheless he satisfies very well all his Obligations, verifying in himself, to his good Luck, the Opinion of *Libanus*. *Plus valet ad gloriam medicis novitas, quam excellentia deficiens.*

T

THE

THE
L I F E
O F
Alphonfus Cordoua,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Madrid* the 29th of *March* 1652, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 22d of *July* 1697.

He is Son to the Marquis of *Priego*, of whose Family is descended that of the Duke of *Sessa*, which gave to the World the late famous General of that Name. This Cardinal's Grandfather having succeeded as Heir to one *Don Ferdinand d'Aghilar*, he took besides his own Name, likewise the Surname of *Aghilar*, which his Grandson this Cardinal carried, till he exchanged his native State with his present Fortune.

When he was very young he enter'd himself in the Order of *Alcantara*, and followed his Studies in one of the greatest Colleges in *Salamanca*, having always lived an unblemished Life, so that he is reputed still to have his Virginity. He was

was received into the Council of the Knights of *Alcantara*, and has several times refused considerable Bishopricks, altho' offered to him by his own Sovereign, who at last gave him his Nomination to a Cardinal's Cap, knowing him to be one of the most deserving Persons within his Dominions. Soon after his Promotion to the Purple, when he was just ready to come to *Rome* with the Character of the King's Ambassador, he was made Inquisitor General upon the Death of Father *Roccaberti*, who was Archbishop of *Valencia*, and General of the Dominican Order. In this manner the *Spaniards* lose all the Advantages they ought to reap from having Cardinals of their own Nation, by putting them into Posts at such a vast distance from *Rome*, and which require their residence in their own Country, at a time when their Presence in *Rome* is greatly necessary to strengthen and keep up their Faction.

This Cardinal is humble, meek, cordial, and obliging; he is generous, charitable, attentive, and discreet; he is most ready to do Service, much applauded by the People, and in great Esteem with the Queen. Her Majesty, by the Mediation of the Admiral of *Castille*, would gladly engage him to set up as Antagonist to *Toledo*, the Head of the Zealot Party which is against the Queen. But this Cardinal has not those abilities which are necessary to any one that engages himself in such broils, and therefore he keeps at as great a distance from them as he can, altho' the Admiral presses him to take up the Standard of their Party. His weak Constitution of Body does not permit him to use great application in Business; and therefore 'tis no wonder if he soon grows weary of it. The great Affection he has

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to the Fryars makes them swarm about him at such a rate, that one would think they were holding a Chapter at his House all the Hours of the Day. He has studied with great Application the Moral Sciences, and the History of the Councils, on which matters he discourses tolerably well. He frequents the Churches and the Oratories more than Libraries; for which reason it may not be amiss to apply to him what *Tacitus* wrote of *Agricola*. *Non qui multa scit, sed qui fructuosa scit, ille sapit.*

T H E

T H E
L I F E
O F

Lewis di Sousa,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Lisbon* the 14th of *February* 1631; and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 22d of *July* 1697.

This Cardinal's Family is one of the most considerable in *Portugal*. For which reason, before the Duke of *Braganza* made himself Master of that Kingdom, this Cardinal, altho' he was then very young, was sent for by *Philip* the IVth King of *Spain*, and put into Service of the Queen Consort, where he continued many Years, and after he had ended the course of his Studies, he went to travel over *Europe*, and came and staid some time here at *Rome*. He was then call'd to *Lisbon*, and made Canon of the Cathedral Church of *Porto*; afterwards the King named him his first Chaplain, and gave him the Archbishoprick of *Lisbon*, and last of all made him Counsellor of State; allowing him to hold at the same time all the forementioned Offices, which are the greatest any Churchman can enjoy, or even desire in that Kingdom.

He was promoted to the sacred Purple at the Nomination of the Crown of *Portugal*; and it was believed he would come to *Rome*, he himself seeming inclined to it. But we have since been informed, that he does not think of stirring from thence, even altho' there were a Conclave. If he should come, there is no doubt but he would be able to make a great Figure, because it is probable he would go Hand in Hand with the *Spaniards*, there being at present a good Correspondence between the two Crowns, and consequently he would be supported by them with all Honours imaginable. But without any such outward assistance, he would be able to make a great appearance by himself, because of the great Riches he enjoys by his paternal Inheritance, besides the Revenue of his Church.

He has one only Niece by a Brother, who will be Heiress to the Family. He married her to a Son of the late Prince of *Lignè* in *Flanders*, who was Viceroy of *Sicily*, and Governour of *Milan*. His Niece's Husband took upon him after the Marriage the Title of Marquis of *Arunces*, which is the principal Mannor belonging to that Family, altho' at present in the Possession of his own Brother, the present Prince of *Lignè*. This Gentleman some Years ago was made choice of by the King of *Portugal*, to go as his Ambassador to the Emperor's Court; where having lost at play some thousands of Crowns to the Count of *Allevail*, that he might exempt himself from paying what he had lost, he most inhumanly murder'd the said Count about three Years ago, in the Suburbs of *Vienna* on the Eve of *St. Lawrence*; having first invited him to go out with him in his Coach, under the Pretext of carrying him to a Match of Hunting. The Marquis for this abominable

minable Murther was forced to fly out of *Germany*, and has ever since gone wandering about in disguise, and under a borrowed Name, residing some time at *Venice*, and some time at *Padoua*; hoping always to get his Pardon from his Sovereign, and Leave to return to his own Country, to live there in some retir'd Corner with his Wife; which he hopes still to obtain by the Intercession of Cardinal *Soufa*, who, because of the great Esteem he is in, has a vast Credit at that Court.

This Cardinal is something proud, but has a great Capacity, and a good stock of Learning, and is grave in his Carriage, he being of a haughty despotical Temper. He is however most courteous, obliging, bountiful and grateful; he is likewise a most excellent Churchman, highly charitable, and much given to Works of Piety. For these his good Qualities, and his handsome majestick Presence, he has got the Love and Esteem of every body.

However, Cardinals make but a sorry Figure at that Court, not being distinguished by any precedence from the other Courtiers of the first rank; so that a Cardinal must wait in the Antichamber among the other Courtiers, without any distinction of Post, which is not very suitable to the Dignity of the sacred Purple. This Cardinal is much given to Study, has a good Understanding, and is a great Lover of all new Books of what kind soever; and there is not a private Gentleman in *Europe* has so well a furnished Library as he has. It takes up four large Apartments, which are finely set out with Statues, engraving, and gilding, with fine Plaister-work and Painting on the Cieling, denoting the nature of the Books that are contain'd in each Apartment. The first Apartment

ment is filled with Law Books; the second with such as treat of School Divinity; the third with Historians and Politicians; and the fourth with all the Classick Authors, and some famous Manuscripts. And which makes a great Show, they are all nobly bound after the same manner, and all gilt on the Back.

This Cardinal is most generous, and keeps a Court like a Sovereign Prince. He is constantly employed either at Study, or in Business, or in Works of Piety, never losing any time. So that the Reproach which *Seneca* throws upon Mankind in general, does not fall upon this Cardinal, he having the Glory of acting quite contrary. *Non exiguum temporis habemus, sed multum perdimus; non accipimus brevem vitam, sed facimus; non inopes ejus, sed prodigi sumus.*

THE
L I F E

OF

Josepb Archinto,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Milan* the 27th of *April* 1643, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the Fourteenth of *November* 1699.

He is a Man of Learning, of a clear Judgment, has great Parts, and a lovely Carriage; is of great Application, cunning, having a free easie way in his Behaviour; he is studious, active, and appears to be all Zeal, diverting himself nevertheless in Family Conversations, reconciling the Profession of Bigotism with that of a Politician, and with the Pleasures of Human Life; for which Reason he is reputed by some to be a Hypocrite, and others represent him as ungrateful, proud, and malicious.

He was first sent by *Clement* the Xth to be Vice-Legate of *Bolonia*, which he left after Four Months time, under Pretext of the excessive Charges he was at, without asking Leave of the Pope, or any other Person, intrusting the Care of his Office
to

to his Auditor, to whom alone he had communicated his imprudent Resolution. He was upon this obliged to retire to *Milan*, where spending his Time in the Pleasures and Diversions of his Country, as an exil'd Man, and a Fugitive, *Innocent* the XIth took Pity of him, he being somewhat related to his Nephew *Don Livio*, recall'd him from *Milan*, and sent him Nuncio to the Great Duke of *Toscany*, giving him the Title of Archbishop *in partibus Infidelium*. He obtain'd afterwards the Nunciature of *Venice*. And in both these Charges he acquitted himself to the great Satisfaction, not only of the Courts whither he was sent, but likewise of the Holy See.

In Consideration of his good Conduct in these two Nunciatures, he got so much into Favour with *Innocent* the XIIth, that the late Cardinal *Caccia*, of blessed Memory, being exalted to the Purple Dignity, *Archinto* was, without any Oblation, and barely because of the Affection the Pope had for him, sent Nuncio to *Madrid*. Which Office he manag'd with such Dexterity, that altho' he was a Subject of *Spain*, yet he always maintain'd stilly the Interest of the Church, and exercis'd his own Authority in many Cases, to the great Shame of that Monarchy, being vigorous and constant in asserting the several Rights of the Ecclesiastical Immunities, and of the Pope's Authority.

He residing at that Court when the King of *Spain*'s Life was in greatest Danger, readily perform'd all that, as Apostolick Nuncio, he was bound to do, giving the Pope a punctual Account of whatever the Grandees of *Spain* were projecting in case of such a fatal Accident, and spar'd no Charges to discover the most hidden Secrets of that Crown and Kingdom, and even that
which

which the Queen her self was plotting and contriving. He grew so much in Esteem with the Pope, that after the Death of Cardinal *Caccia*, when the Ambassador of *Spain* went to lay before his Holiness the Persons whom his Master recommended to the Archbishoprick of *Milan*, and the Ambassador not agreeing with the Pope's favourable Inclinations to *Monsignor Archinto*, but desiring rather to have *Monsignor Scotti* advanc'd to the Archbishoprick, that his Place of Auditor of the *Rota* might fall to *Corio*, Advocate of the Consistory, the Pope all of a sudden, and without the Knowledge of the said Ambassador, declar'd and publish'd for Archbishop of the City of *Milan* *Monsignor Archinto*.

All the Objection that was made against this Prelate was not against his Person, but because he was Brother to Count *Philip Archinto*, Senator of *Milan*, who for the space of Five Years had serv'd as General in *Flanders*, and having now a great Intimacy with the present Governor of *Milan*, gave occasion to fear lest his Family should usurp an absolute Dominion over the City of *Milan*, one of the Brothers being the chief Ruler in Temporal Affairs, and the other in Spiritual. *Innocent* the XIIth happening afterwards to fall sick, and making a Promotion of Cardinals, *Monsignor Archinto*, as Nuncio, was dignify'd with the Sacred Purple.

In all the Charges which he has enjoy'd, (except the first, that of the Vice-Legateship of *Bologna*, his Conduct in which may be excus'd because of his younger Years) he has shown Prudence, Learning, great Ability, and a Capacity for any great Business whatever. He is tender-hearted, all Zeal, of great Piety, and wholly upright. He is nevertheless censur'd by some Criticks

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as being severe, a Dissembler, not very gracious, and somewhat interested. However, he is so much the more to be praised for his great Liberality in giving Alms, which he distributes abundantly to Persons that are indigent, and asham'd to beg. He is courteous, modest, expeditious, cordial, of few words, and fewer Ceremonies; of great Devotion, much given to Prayer, and has a great Aversion to all Quarrels and Disputes.

He is as yet too young to have any greater Hopes at present; and as to his Vote in the Conclave, it is probable, that if the Faction of the *Pignatellists* has no Head, he'll side with the Zealots, as being more inclin'd to that Party than any other. So that we may say of him with the Moralist, *Erubescat Senectus, quæ se commendare non potest, non annorum canities est laudanda, sed morum.*

T H E
L I F E
O F
Nicholas Rodolovich,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in the City of *Ragusa* the 28th of *December* 1627; and was exalted to the Purple Dignity by *Innocent the XIIth* the 14th of *November* 1699.

This Cardinal's Family comes originally from the Empire, and is at present settled in *Naples*. From which Consideration it seems plain to me, that both the Houses of *Austria* ought to join their hearty Endeavours for this Cardinal's Exaltation to the Papacy; the one, because he is originally a *German*; and the other, because he is at present a Subject of *Spain*. And it seems to be a just Consequence from hence, that he can lay no great Stress on the Protection of the Crown of *France*; since the foremention'd Considerations are sufficient to determine that Crown to declare openly against him.

But

But the Politicians form another Scheme of things quite different from what in reason ought to be laid down, And that is, that this Cardinal being, either out of Vanity, or really so, a Kinsman of the Marquis *del Vasto*, as the Marquis publicly own'd him for such when he was made a Cardinal; having regaled him with several fine Sets of Coach Horses, and other Presents to a considerable Value; the Politicians pretend, that on the account of this Relation the Cardinal has to the Marquis *del Vasto*, the Crown of *Spain* will not be very favourable to his Exaltation. But for my part, I cannot see what Reason the *Spaniards* can have, upon this bare Consideration, to oppose the Exaltation of so worthy a Cardinal, who has always express'd a great Veneration for that Monarchy.

The Consideration of this Cardinal's personal Merit will be no small Help to his greater Fortune. For he enter'd into Prelature towards the end of the Pontificate of *Urban* the VIIIth, and was employed in several Governments of the Ecclesiastical State, among which was that of *Rieti*; from whence he was afterwards sent to be Commissary over the Plague. In all which Employments he constantly shew'd himself to be greatly disinterested, carried himself always with great Affability, was attentive to his Business just and discreet. Before he enter'd himself in the Course of those Governments, from which Prelates rise gradually to higher Employments, he gave frequent Proofs at *Rome* of his great Spirit and Parts; having, while he was Reterendary there, reported many Causes with a Clearness of Judgment, and Neatness of Expression, that cannot be equal'd.

He

He was made Archbishop of *Chieti* by *Innocent* the XIth, of Blessed Memory, where he carried himself always as a careful Pastor of his Flock, and maintain'd resolutely the Jurisdiction of the Church, against all that pretended to make any Encroachments on it. He never had the least Dispute with the City of *Chieti*, having always managed his Government with great Discretion. But he had some little Jarring with his Clergy; and the Chapter, which is wholly composed of the principal Nobility of *Chieti*, for having given a Canon's Place to a certain Priest of *Modena*, one of his own domestick Servants. This proved afterwards an occasion of delaying his Promotion to the Cardinalship. For the Pope † having contracted a great Friendship with this Cardinal from the time he enter'd into Prelature, which his Holiness always retain'd when he was Archbishop of *Naples*, he called him from his Archbishoprick of *Chieti*, to be Secretary to the Congregation for Visitations; and that for no other end, but to dignifie him with the sacred Purple, because of the great Opinion he had of him. And without doubt, the Pope would have named him Cardinal in his first Promotion, had it not been for an Accident that interven'd, which was this. A certain underling Priest of this Cardinal's Diocess having gone to kiss the Pope's Toe, in order to beg of his Holiness some Dispensation he wanted, the Pope ask'd him how matters went with the Government of the Church of *Chieti*; to which the Priest made answer, that all things went very well. The Pope enquir'd farther, who were all Canons of the Church; to which the Priest reply'd, that they were all Nobles except

cept a domestick Servant of the Archbishop's, whom he had made a Canon; and who was then in *Rome*, to receive from the Vicar General Directions in writing, concerning every thing that might be necessary to the good Government of that Church. His Holiness took such Exception at this, altho' without any manner of Reason, that he would not make him a Cardinal in his first Promotion.

Just such another Accident lost him the Cardinal's Cap, which the Pope had designed for him at the time that Cardinal *Paulucci* was promoted. For a few Days before the Promotion, some Body had suggested to his Holiness, that *Rodolovich* was apt to be fuddled; and this was slyly insinuated to the Pope, when he was commending him for a great Man; *yes, Holy Father*, says one, *it is true, he is a great Man, but one ought to talk with him in a Morning before Dinner.* These words made such an Impression on his Holiness, that having sent for *Rodolovich* one Morning, and asking him a great many Questions one after another, contrary to his usual Custom, he then dismiss'd him. And one of the Gentlemen of the Pope's Bedchamber coming in as *Rodolovich* went out, altho' it was in the Morning before Dinner, yet his Holiness was so prepossess'd with what had been told him a little before, that he began to say to the Gentleman of the Bedchamber, that *Rodolovich* was already somewhat tipsy.

Cardinal *Laurence Altieri* having renounced the Legateship of *Urbino*, because of the famous Process that was carried on against his great Favourite *Sparapani*, as may be seen in his Life; and *Monsignor d'Aste* having been made President of that Legateship; his Place of Secretary

to the Congregation for Bishops, and the Regular Clergy, was by his Holiness confer'd upon this Cardinal. With what Dexterity, and address he managed this Office, let the Regular Clergy declare; who being highly satisfied with his Conduct, have made great Panegyricks to his Commendation. And the whole City of *Rome* can bear Witness to the vast Capacity he shew'd in the Discharge of this Office; there having never any Difficulty been started, but he always found either a ready Evasion, or a sure Remedy for it.

He is learned in all the Sciences, but chiefly in the Knowledge of the Canons, the Councils, and of Church History. He is well instructed in the Interests of Princes, is prudent, humble, and of a free easie Carriage; he is merry, pleasant, and open-hearted. When the People first heard the News of this Cardinal's Promotion, which happened at the time of the Pope's great Sickness, they express'd an inconceivable Joy for his Advancement; they being generally perswaded, that his Promotion would intirely defeat all the Projects, that the Cardinals were carrying on underhand, for the Creation of a new Pope; since this Cardinal's great Age, and his most excellent Gifts, would make him stand as fair for the Throne of *St. Peter*, as any other Candidate whatsoever.

THE
LIFE
OF

Daniel Mark Delfino,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Venice* the fourth of *October* 1653, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the fourteenth of *November* 1699.

Altho' this Cardinal had had no other Merit, than barely the Glory of being Nephew to Cardinal *Delfino* that died lately, and who in his Lifetime had deserv'd so well both of the Holy See, and of all the Crowns, this alone would have been enough to qualifie him for the Dignity of the sacred Purple.

Upon the occasion of the Death of *Alexander* the VIIIth, that great Cardinal *Delfino* went to the Conclave, and carried along with him this Cardinal his Nephew; who after the Exaltation of *Innocent* the XIIth to the Papacy, was made one of his domestick Prelates. But his Holiness, a few Months after, gave him the Vice-

Vicelegateship of *Avignon*; which matter had been concerted before they came out of the Conclave. In that post he govern'd himself intirely according to the prudent Directions he received from his Uncle, not moving a step without his Advice; so that he had the good Luck to give intire Satisfaction not only to the Apostolick See, but likewise to the Court of *France*.

The good Correspondence that pass'd between him and the *French* in his Vicelegateship, procured him afterwards the Nunciature of *France*, which was given him rather at the Request of the *French* King, than at his own Desire. During his Residence at that Court, he gained the Affection of that Monarch more than any Nuncio that ever had been there before him; and he was greatly applauded by the whole Court, for the many generous Treats he gave. His great Intimacy with the Courtiers, gave him favourable Opportunities of prying more narrowly into their State Transactions; so that he has been able to discover to the Pope many of the hidden Springs of their Government.

He is pretty well learned in several Sciences, but he excels chiefly in History, in the knowledge of State Matters, and of the Interests of all the Princes of the World; and he is able to find out a Salvo to the most desperate Case that is. He has ever from his Youth shown a great Affection to the Crown of *France*, for which the Cardinal his Uncle, who was a great Politician, has corrected him many a time, and advised him to carry always with an Indifferency to all the Crowns. He retains however a secret Aversion to the Crown of *Spain*.

Some Years ago *Innocent* the XIIth gave him the rich Bishoprick of *Brescia*; and in his last Promotion he dignified him with the sacred Purple. Upon this Occasion it seems, in outward appearance, as if this Cardinal had given some Ground to the Crown of *France* to mistrust him; he having, to shew his Gratitude to his Creator, refused positively to visit the Princes of the Royal Blood, if they did not give him the right Hand in the Visit, altho' his Predecessor the late Cardinal *Cavallerini* had unadvisedly comply'd with the Desire of the Court in this Matter. *Cavallerini* was tempted to comply with this Novelty, for fear he should lose the Present of a few thousands of Crowns that is usually made to the Nuncios. But this was not capable of making the least Impression on the generous Soul of this Cardinal, who courageously withstood the Brunt of the Court in this Affair, and restored the sacred College to their Right, which had been somewhat infringed by the imprudent Conduct of *Cavallerini*.

This Cardinal does not hold any good Correspondence with Cardinal *Negroni*, and some others of the Zealot Faction, because of their having opposed the intended Exaltation of the deceased Cardinal *Delfino* his Uncle, in the last Conclave save one. There are many Criticks who represent this Cardinal to be severe, headstrong, proud, and ambitious. But in reality he is not such as he is represented; that haughty Carriage of his being rather the Effect of natural Instinct, than of any studied Gesture; for in Conversation one finds him to be genteel, well-bred, courteous and discreet. He is a great Friend to his well Wishers; he has great Parts,
a vast

a vast Capacity, and a most generous noble Soul.

To examine here at present, while the Cardinal is so very young, all these his good Qualities which I have mention'd, and others I have omitted, seems to me altogether superfluous, he being too remote from entertaining any Hopes of bettering his present Fortune; because the sacred College has determined for the future, not to exalt any one to the Papacy, that has not the precious Balsam, not of old Age, but of Decrepitness.

THE
LIFE
OF

Andrew Santacroce,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* the 22d of *November* 1656, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 14th of *November* 1699.

He put himself in Prelature under the Pontificate of *Clement* the Xth, who at first made him a Reporter of Causes in the Courts of Appeals*, and Requests†. But he, in order to get a greater Experience in the Affairs of the World, and to advance his Fortune, procured to himself one of those petty Governments, from which Prelates are gradually advanced to higher Posts in the Church; and at his first setting out he was sent to the Government of *Tivoli*. In all the Places to which he was sent Governour, he acquir'd the popular Applause to such a degree, that *Innocent* the XIth sent him Vice-legate to *Bolonia*, in the time that Cardinal *Pignatelli* was Legate. But the Legate, seeing him diligent and active in nothing but in gallanting the Ladies, soon conceived

* *Segnatura di Giustitia.*

† *Segnatura di Gratia.*

ceived a mean Opinion of his Judgment; and said of him in all Companies, that *Santacroce* had nothing that was good in him except a white fair Hand, which was a qualification he could not but have naturally, and by instinct, he having been born a Gentleman.

When *Alexander* the VIIIth mounted the Chair of *St. Peter*, he took from *Anthony*, Marquis of *Santacroce*, Brother to this Cardinal, the Place of Captain of the Pope's Light Horse; and gave it, at the Request of some Cardinals, (for all this Matter was transacted and agreed upon in the Conclave) to the Marquis *Astalli*, Brother to the Cardinal of that Name, who is at present Legate of *Ferrara*. The good old Pope foreseeing that his having turn'd out the Marquis of *Santacroce*, without any Crime, and barely at the Request of others, might be a means to perpetuate a Grudge between that Family and his own, thought it convenient to raise *Monsignor Santacroce* to some honourable and advantageous Post, that he might thereby make some amends for the wrong done to his Brother the Marquis, and so sent him Nuncio to the Court of *Poland*. There he got himself Credit; spending, not superfluously, but as much as his low Circumstances could well afford. And his Brother the Marquis was so narrow-handed to him, never supplying him with any thing towards the great Charges he was at; that he was forced to sell off some part of his Patrimony, that he might have wherewithal to supply the necessary Expenses of his Nunciature.

Tanara, who was at this time Nuncio at *Vien-*
na, being made a Cardinal, *Santacroce* gave in his just Claim to succeed him in that Post. But he had great difficulty to obtain it from *Inno-*

cent the XIIth, because of the bad Opinion which his Holiness had conceived of *Santacroce*, at the time that he was Vice-legate of *Bolonia*. However, the Marquis of *Santacroce*, this Cardinal's Brother, wrought so with Count *Martinitz*, who was then newly come to reside at this Court, with the Character of Ambassador from his Imperial Majesty, that he, by his pressing Solicitations to the Pope, procured *Santacroce* to be named to the Nunciature of *Vienna*.

It was during the time of his Nunciature at *Vienna*, that the jarrings and disputes happen'd between his Holiness, the sacred College, and Count *Martinitz* the Emperor's Ambassador. And the Nuncio, on this Occasion, appear'd to be the most bitter Enemy the Ambassador had, which hapen'd because of the famous Quarrel which the Marchioness of *Santacroce*, the Nuncio's Sister-in-law, had with the Countess of *Martinitz* the Ambassador's Wife. The Marchioness of *Santacroce*, frequenting the Conversations that were held at the House of the Ambassadors in *Rome*, was observ'd several times to pull her Seat in before the other Ladies of Quality that were there; and this she was thought to do, that she might show her self to be above the other Ladies. The Ambassadors, under this Pretext, order'd the Marquis of *Rossi*, her Master of Ceremonies, the first time that the Marchioness of *Santacroce* came there, to nail her Chair to the Floor, that she might not be able to move it; at which the Marchioness was highly offended, because of the Injury and Affront that was done her in such a publick manner.

Count *Martinitz* went afterwards to the Court of *Vienna*, to justify himself as to the imprisonment and poysoning of the Valet de *Chambre* of
Count

Count *Fibia* his Master of the Horse, who was accused to have attempted to poyson the Ambassadors and all the Family. And seeing the Nuncio *Santacroce* at Court, he did not open his Mouth to him, nor take the least manner of notice of him; but on the contrary, endeavour'd strongly to exasperate the Emperor against him, that he might turn him quite out of his Favour. The Ambassador being returned to *Rome*, wrote constantly pressing and earnest Letters to the Emperor, that he might refuse Audience to the Nuncio, as the Pope had denied it to him; the Ambassador knowing very well that the least misunderstanding of the Nuncio with the Court of *Vienna*, would be sufficient to have him recalled to *Rome*. But the Emperor would never yield to the pressing Solicitations of his Minister, but always gave the Nuncio a favourable Audience.

The Nuncio *Santacroce* lost greatly in his Reputation, when the Pope was advised by other Nuncios of the Resolution taken in the Diet of *Ratisbone*, to publish the general Edict against the Barons that are Subjects of the Ecclesiastical State, obliging them, under the Penalty of being disseised of their Fees, to acknowledge for their Sovereign Lord and Master the Imperial Treasury. This Edict was accordingly put in Execution, the Abbot *de Dominicis*, the Emperor's Agent at the Court of *Rome*, making intimation of it to Prince *Augustin Chigi*, and the Emperor's Ambassador Count *Martinitz*, making Copies of the Edict to be affixed in all publick Places. And yet the Nuncio *Santacroce* had never been able to discover any thing of this Matter at *Vienna*. But this proceeded wholly from his not being able to be at the Charges of a splendid

splendid magnificent Table, which is absolutely necessary to the Nuncio's residing at that Court, if they will penetrate into what is plotting and contriving there. For there is no Court in the World, where the Mysteries and Intrigues of State may be more easily penetrated into, than the Court of *Vienna*; their Secrets being laid up in the Discretion of their Wine.

The Pope, upon the occasion of this mismanagement of the Nuncio's, order'd his Brother the Marquis of *Santacroce* to assign him a certain Sum of Money, wherewith he might be able to supply the Charges of his Nunciature. It is certain, that if the Emperor had not press'd his Promotion, *Innocent* the XIIth had never made him Cardinal; he having a design to recal him from his Nunciature, without taking into Consideration the sixty thousand Crowns, and upwards, which he had spent in his two Nunciatures. And if he had not had good Friends about the Pope, who were industrious in extolling his Merit, which his Holiness made so little account of, all his hopes of a Cardinal's Cap would have vanish'd into nothing.

The chief reason of the Pope's displeasure with this Cardinal, as the Politicians will have it, did not proceed from any Personal defect in the Cardinal himself, but from a secret Grudge which his Holyness bore to the Marquis of *Santacroce*, the Cardinal's Brother. For at the time that the Marquis was Captain of the Light Horse, and the present Pope * Chamberlain of the Household to *Innocent* the XIth, the Marquis was wont to jest upon him and mock him in all Companies. The Pope having been informed of this, sent one
to

* *Innocent* XII.

to complain to the Marquis, of his having mimicked him publickly in the House of Cardinal *Mattei*, representing him as a Country Clown, and counterfeiting all those gestures of Body which he used when he was busied about the Affairs of the Antichamber, which the good old Man took so much in dudgeon, that he could never forget it. Laying aside this Grudge which the Pope had at the Marquis of *Santacroce*, this Nuncio deserv'd a Cardinal's Cap as well, if not better than any of the other Nuncios, considering the great Services he had done to the Holy See at the Court of *Vienna*; he having obtained all manner of Satisfaction to the Pope from his Imperial Majesty, getting him to send a new Ambassador to this Court, and to recal the other.

This Cardinal is a well-bred Man, pleasant, chearful, and cordial; he is of a sweet easie Behaviour in Conversation, and is well instructed in the Interests of Princes; but has a natural defect of stammering sometimes in his Speech. The Emperor express'd an unspeakable Joy at the News of his Promotion, made him high Compliments upon it, and regaled him with considerable Presents; and all this he did out of cunning and artifice, to make the Pope believe that he was greatly remarkable for his Merit. When he came to *Rome*, he was immediately received by the Pope with great Expressions of Joy, very far different from the mean Opinion his Holiness had always conceived of him; he caressing him, and making him great Compliments upon his Promotion, giving him at the same time several Abbeyes, to the value of four thousand Crowns a Year.

The Criticks accuse this Cardinal of being haughty, ignorant and presumptuous; but when one

one is well acquainted with him, he proves to be quite different. And indeed, this Accusation lies more justly against the Marquis, the Chardinal's Brother, and against his Nephew; who, besides that the Brother is sordidly covetous, do both of them agree in the Vice of Pride, they being as proud as *Lucifer* himself, to the great discredit of their Family; which, in the Rank of private Gentlemen, is highly considerable both for Quality and Estate, it being one of the richest, as well as one of the most conspicuous Families in this City.

It would be altogether superfluous to say any thing here concerning this Cardinal's greater Fortune, he being as yet too young to think of rising higher. A great many Years hence the Politicians may weigh what has been said of him here, together with other Circumstances that may hereafter occur, in order to judge of his Merit for mounting the Throne of *St. Peter*.

THE
L I F E
O F

Marcellus D'Aste,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Rome* the 22d of *November* 1657, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the 14th of *November* 1699.

This Cardinal from his Youth, considering his most exemplary Life in those Years of Indiscretion, gave great Signs of what he would come to in process of time. After having spent some of his younger Years in the *Clementine College*, he left it in order to study the Law, which he learned under the Direction of one Doctor *Cenci* living at *St. Andrea della Valle*.

When he was recommended to *Innocent* the XIth, and Information given to his Holiness of the innocent Life which this young Man led, the Pope provided him at that time with a Canon's

non's Place in the Church of *St. Lorenzo e Damaso*, which was very soon after exchanged into a **more** Lucrative one in *St. Peter's*. He seeing **Fortune** smile upon him under the Pontificate of that Pope, in order to render him more capable of receiving the Favours which Fortune destined for him, he thought fit to put himself in Prelature, making as it were a Prison of his own House. For except on the Hours in which he was obliged to assist at the Quire on Days of Devotion, he constantly staid in his House, and never stirr'd abroad. So that those belonging to the Court seeing him so attentive to Business, and finding him so ready on all occasions, began to crowd about him with References, so that in a short time he had more Business than any other Prelates, he making a thousand Crowns a Year of his Gratuities. His Reputation grew so great with every Body, that *Innocent* the XIth made him Judge of the Fabrick of *St. Peter's*, he having printed some learned Votes which the Duty of his Office obliged him to, by which it appears how well versed he is in the Law, how well instructed in the Pope's Bulls, and the sacred Canons; and that he is likewise pretty well learned in Church History, and the Councils.

Pope Innocent the XIth, in order perhaps to qualify him for a higher post, offer'd him the Government of *Sabina*, which he refused under pretext that he could not abandon the Interests of his Family. The said Pope afterwards design'd to give him the Place of Lieutenant to the Auditor of the Treasury, which he likewise rejected, pretending for excuse his weak Complexion. It is certain, that if these Refusals had been made by any other Person, they would have been imputed to him as a mortal Sin, and they

they would have made the Pope take a Prejudice against him as being presumptuous, ambitious, and squeamish. But to this Cardinal, who sailed directly before the Wind of Fortune, these Refusals served as a means of obtaining greater Favour; for he kept himself in good Esteem with *Innocent* the XIth till the Death of that Pope.

When *Alexander* the VIIIth was advanced to *St. Peter's* Chair, Cardinal *Medici* asked his Holiness to give to *Monsignor D'Aste* the Auditor's place of the *Rota* that was vacant. To which Request that wise and crafty Pope immediately replied, that to oblige Cardinal *Medici* he would not only make him Auditor of the *Rota*, but designed to make him his own Auditor, which he did, giving the Vacancy in the *Rota* to *Monsignor Muti*, who was Nuncio at *Naples*, that he might provide *Monsignor Casoni* with his Place. When *Innocent* the XIIth was made Pope, he sent him Nuncio into *Switzerland*, where after he had staid some Years, he asked his Leave, under Pretext of the great Charges he was at, and then he returned to the Exercise of his Office in the Quire of *St. Peter's*. After the Death of the famous *Monsignor Altoviti*, Secretary of the Congregation appointed for the Affairs of Bishops, and the Regular Clergy, this great Immploy was by *Innocent* the XIIth given to *Monsignor D'Aste*. In the Exercise of this Office he gave but little Satisfaction, having shewn himself to be indiscreet, sophistical, a Caviller, conceited of his own Opinion, and not a little scrupulous; having likewise few Expedients, and ways of adjusting; for which Reason he had no great Credit, and especially with the Monks, who complain'd heavily of him. It was the famous Father *Diaz*, together with *Antonin Mary Fedé* Agent for the House of *Medici*,

Medici, that plaid him a cunning Trick with the Pope. For the Legateship of *Urbino* happening to fall vacant; because of the known Broils which Cardinal *Lorenzo Altieri* had there, *Monfignor D'Aste* was by his Holiness unexpectedly named President of that Legateship, and at the same time without one Moment of Delay, his Place of Secretary of the Congregation for Bishops, and the Regular Clergy was filled up by *Monfignor Rodolovich*, who was then Secretary of the general Visitation of the Prisons, and is now likewise Cardinal.

Monfignor D'Aste was greatly disturbed at this Accident, seeing himself deprived of so honourable a Post without any Demerit, and sent to be President of *Urbino*, a temporary and expensive Charge. But Cardinal *Colloredo* who has a tender Affection for him, because he is his true Disciple, encouraged him not only to accept of the Place, but even to go immediately and thank the Pope for the Honour he had done him, which he accordingly did. In this Post he carried himself pretty well, having exercised his Superiority with great Integrity and Discretion, being rigorous against taking Presents, having forbid even all his Servants to take any Money, or other Presents which were due by Custom. Father *Diaz* having afterwards fallen into Disgrace with the Pope before his Holiness fell sick, and the Pope having resolved in consideration of his Weakness, and by the Persuasion of Cardinal *Colloredo*, to make a Promotion of Cardinals, and discourfing of the Persons fit to be advanced to that Dignity, the Pope fixed on *Monfignor D'Aste* as one, having a Scruple of Conscience for having excluded him in his first Promotion in 1695, and Cardinal *Colloredo* infisting strongly to have him

him promoted, he was named Cardinal contrary to the Expectation of all *Rome*.

After his Exaltation to the Cardinalship, he was soon after provided with the Bishoprick of *Ancona*, and some other Incomes; and afterwards his Creator dignified him with the Legateship of *Urbino*, where he was President. As to his Personal Qualities, he is learned, attentive, pious, just, charitable, punctual, serviceable, and zealous. In case of a Conclave, if *Pignatelli's* Faction has no Head, there is no doubt but this Cardinal will go along with the Zealots, and will by no means depart from the Will of *Colloredo*, his only Benefactor, and he being of his Sect. And in my Opinion, he will use his utmost Endeavours for setting the Triple Crown on the Head of Cardinal *Colloredo*, who is one of the Candidates for it, since it would be but Vanity for himself to pretend at present to any greater Fortune, considering his unripeness of Years.

T H E
L I F E
O F
Sperello Sperelli,
Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Affisi* the 15th of *August* 1639, and received the Cardinal's Cap from the Hands of *Innocent* the XIIth the 14th of *November* 1699.

Whoever would draw a perfect Model of an excellent Churchman, needs only to copy after the Effigies and Person of this worthy Cardinal *Sperelli*. From the time that he set out from his Father's House, to come to reside in this City, he has always given extraordinary Proofs of an unspeakable Modesty, Uprightness, Integrity, and Application, not only to the Service of God, but likewise to human Affairs. When he wore the Habit of an Abbot, he commonly frequented the College for propagating the Christian Faith. But he afterwards entred himself into the Service
of

of the deceased Cardinal *Franzoni*, in the Quality of his Auditor; after whose Death, he served in the same Quality Cardinal *Felix Rospigliosi*. These two Cardinals gave him very soon true Marks of their Affection, both the one, and the other making him frequent Offers of Bishopricks, which he constantly refused; till he was forced by *Innocent* the XIth, at the Desire of Cardinal *Cybo*, at that time first Minister of State, to undergo the Examination for the vacant Church of *Terni*, which his Holiness had designed for him and obliged him to accept for the greater Service of God, and the Advantage of that Flock. Having enter'd on the Administration of his Pastoral Function, the prudent and pious ways which he took for the Government of his Diocese, were greatly remarkable. He carried himself all along with such Fervour and Zeal for the Honour of God, giving so good an Example to all Clergymen, that when *Innocent* the XIIth was exalted to St. Peter's Chair, he called *Sperelli* to the Post of Vicegerent; he having some few Years ago renounced the Church of *Terni* to his Brother, who was formerly Prior of the Cathedral Church of *Affisi*.

In the said Office of Vicegerent, he gave great Demonstrations of his moral Virtues, and attended punctually on the Duties belonging to his Function. And whereas others, that had been his Predecessors in that Post, had got themselves the universal Hatred of the People, because of the nice and troublesome Affairs that come before them; this Cardinal carried himself so prudently and dextrously in his Office, that he found means to provide against all manner of Scandal, by obliging the Offenders to make Reparation, and at the same time, acquired to him-

self the good Will and Affection of every one. The Pope had so great an Opinion of *Sperelli*, that altho' it had been the Custom time out of Mind, to refer always to the Cardinal Vicar, the Memorials that were given in to the Pope; his Holiness remitted them all to the Vicegerent, he confiding intirely in his great Prudence and Fidelity. *Carpegna* the Cardinal Vicar being exasperated at this, fell into a Passion many times with *Sperelli* upon this account, and even complain'd of it one Morning before the Pope, when the Vicegerent was there present, his Holiness having recommended to him the answering of a certain Memorial concerning some Nuns. This gave occasion to the Pope, when Cardinal *Carpegna* was gone, to break out into these Expressions to *Sperelli*, *We are the Master, and we will remit to you all the Memorials.* Then *Sperelli* with great Humility, intreated the Pope to let things run on in the ordinary Course, he being able to assure his Holiness, that the Cardinal Vicar took care to have all Matters that were brought before his Tribunal, decided according to Justice and Equity.

Sperelli had been advanced to the Cardinalship, in the first Promotion that *Innocent* the XIIth made in the Year 1695, had not backbiting Tongues attempted to crush this rare Plant in the Bud, and by their false Calumnies made the Pope defer his Resolution. They prepossefs'd the good and innocent old Gentleman, by giving him to understand, that *Sperelli*, in the time that he was in the Service of Cardinal *Franzoni*, had been imprisoned upon suspicion that he had been accessary, by giving his Consent, to the Murther of Count *Ulderic Fiume*, Cousin to the *Sperelli's*; who were supposed to have

have murther'd him, because of a certain Law-Suit that was between them. But all the Appearances were quite contrary to such a Supposition; for the Law-Suit, upon which the Presumption of their being the Murtherers was chiefly founded, was not lost, but gained by the said *Sperellis*, who were accused of the Murther. But during all the time that the Process was carrying on, it fell upon the poor Abbot *Sperelli* to bear the Punishment; he having been confined to Prison during nine Months most innocently, not being conscious to himself of any thing that could be objected to him in this unlucky Accident, except it was the having had a bare dutiful Friendship with the Counts *Fiume*, because of their Relation to him. However, the Presumptions against the *Sperellis*, who were accused of the Murther, grew the greater by their making their Escape to *Naples*.

But the Truth of this matter is, according to the universal Opinion of *Rome*, that the Murther was not committed by the *Sperellis*, but that it proceeded from a higher Sphere, it being supposed to have been committed by order of *Don Augustin Chigi*, who was at that time the Reigning Nephew to the Pope. The Occasion was thought to be this, that a little before the Murther of Count *Fiume*, there was seen in the Streets of *Rome* a Pasquil, representing a Lady standing naked in a Bath or River, and the Water coming up to her privy Parts, with this Motto, *Sin qui arriuò Fiume*, Thus far came up *Fiume* *. And because this Pasquil described so very clearly the Love Intrigues,

X 3

and

* *Fiume*, the Counts Name, signifies in *Italian*, a River.

and other Acts of Familiarity, that pass'd between the Princess *Chigi*, Wife to the said *Don Augustin*, and the Count *Fiume* his Gentleman, it has always been believed, that the House of *Chigi* were the Authors of that Murther.

But all these Reflexions rais'd such Scruples in the Pope, matters having been represented to him quite otherwise than they really were, that he fancying the Abbot *Sperelli* to have had some Hand in the Murther, banish'd him quite from his Thoughts; notwithstanding he formerly fully resolv'd to advance him. But the Sovereign Creator and Governour of the World, not being willing to see Innocence remain always oppress'd, nor to suffer wicked Men to triumph in their Malice, dispos'd Matters so in his wise Providence, as to restore this worthy and innocent Person to his former Credit and Integrity, by inspiring the Pope in his last Promotion, (which is called the scrupulous Promotion) to raise him to the Cardinalship, at the time that he was Assessor to the Inquisition. So that to the confusion of his Enemies, who occasion'd the Delay of his Advancement, he might have engraven on his Mitre, in Capital Letters, these excellent words of the Anthem, *Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diebus suis placuit, & inventus est justus.*

This Cardinal is pious, devout, serviceable, and just; genteel, sober, and wise; studious, friendly, and zealous; averse to all the Court Ceremonies, void of Passion, and altogether free from Scruples. However, those malicious Criticks cannot endure to hear him well spoken of, and will not allow him to have all these good Qualities I have mentioned; they representing him

him to be a Man that is reserved, a Hypocrite, a Dissembler, a Man of few words, and double Hearted. Whereas for my part, I have always found him to be sincere, and a true Friend, and his speaking little proceeds, rather from his being of a quiet silent Temper, than from any thing of Art. But I don't believe there is any one, let him be never so malicious, that will contradict me when I say, that this Cardinal is learned in the Law, well versed in sacred History, yet better instructed in the Canons and Councils, and likewise well read in the Fathers. He is a Man of a free easie Carriage, and quick in his Repartees, jealous to a high Degree of the Rights of the Holy See, of which he is very well inform'd; and he has likewise a tolerable good Knowledge of the Interests of Princes. But his most engaging Quality is his genteel Presence, and that noble Carriage of his, with which he captivates the Affection of every one that discourses with him. He is humble, careless, and submissive, to the Admiration of every one; he exceeds in courtesie, more than is consistent with the Dignity of the Purple.

Finally, this Cardinal, when he is somewhat more advanced in Years, will stand as fair as any other Candidate whatever for obtaining the great Lot; he being indifferent with all the Crowns, and having a Friendship with many Families, which are able to advance his Interest considerably. It is certain, that the House of *Rospigliosi* will always have a great Regard for him, as being a great Friend to that Family; he having served Cardinal *Felix Rospigliosi* in the Quality of Auditor, and having from the time of his Promotion, received Demonstrations of their Affection.

fection. For he was no sooner made Cardinal, but he was regaled by the said Cardinal *Rospigliosi*, with a Mace, a Set of fix Horses for his Coach, and other Presents to a considerable Value. And this Family of *Rospigliosi* will be able to do him considerable Service, by procuring him the Protection of the Crown of *France*. From the Empire, and the Crown of *Spain*, he can have no manner of Opposition; but on the contrary, may expect their Favour, considering the Propensity he has always shewn to their Ministers upon all Occasions.

He is likewise very well with the House of *Medicis*, having a Brother in the Service of that Prince, and one of the Knights of St. *Stephen*. He cannot be in better Terms than he is with the Zealots, he being one of their Club, and especially considering the great Friendship he has with Cardinal *Colloredo*, who having had some Hand in his Exaltation, looks upon him, as a trusty Friend to his Family. There passes a very good Correspondence between him and *Ottoboni's* Party, Cardinal *Ottoboni* their Head looking upon him, altho' a Zealot, nevertheless to be genteel and sociable, of a free easie Carriage, and not so scrupulous as the other Zealots; so that he expresses a particular Friendship for him, and the rather, because of the great Opinion *Alexander* the eighth had of his Merit.

With the Creatures of *Innocent* the XIIth he cannot but be well upon all Respects. But altho' at present he would meet with no manner of Obstacle to his farther Advancement, yet this is not the time to establish any Foundation as to his greater Fortune, he not having as yet

yet the most essential Qualification that is now a Days required for the Papacy, that is, old Age, or rather, in my Opinion, Decrepitness. And if he had this requisite at present; I think I might very safely averr, that he would be Pope. But when he has acquired, in process of time, this Papal Qualification, I do not know, nay, I much doubt, whether he will then succeed.

THE

THE
LIFE
OF

John Mary Gabrielli,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in the City of *Castella* the 10th of *January* 1654, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth, the 14th of *November* 1699.

As to this Cardinal, it cannot be denied but Fortune with full Sails has carried him to the height of Honour, considering that he being born of very mean Parents, took the Resolution, even when he was pretty far gone in Years, to confine himself to a Monastical Life, with a design to get thereby his Livelihood, his Parents being so excessively poor, that they could not afford him a Maintenance. It is but little we can say in his Commendation, to justify his Advancement to such an eminent Post.

As soon as he had made an end of his Novitiat, he applied himself entirely to speculative Learning,
being

being made Lecturer in several Convents of the Novitiats. Besides his Knowledge in Philosophy, he is very well versed in Divinity, in the sacred Canons, in the Councils, and especially in Church History. He has publish'd two Books, one in Defence of the Works of the deceased Cardinal *Sfondrati*; the other is an Explication of the Opinions of the Archbishop of *Cambrai*. Besides his Knowledge in the Sciences, he is very well instructed in worldly Interests, knowing well how to steer a Ship, being a good Politician; for after having been some Years General Procurator of his Order, he found means cunningly to advance himself to the Post of General of the Order, to the shame of many who would not accept of it.

Gabrielli being made President of the Studies in the College for propagating the Faith, this gave him Occasion to get into Favour with the renowned *Monsignor Fabroni*, famous for his Zeal and Bigottry, who after his usual Custom insinuated him so much into Favour with *Innocent* the XIIth, by describing his Qualities, that he raised a Desire in his Holiness to send for him, and to exhort him to write, as he did, against the Archbishop of *Cambrai*'s Book. The Criticks will have it, that there is no great Merit due to this Cardinal for the said Composition, it being easie for him to succeed in it, there having been an infinite Number of Writings made on this Subject by famous Men, all which served for his Instruction. Besides the Favour of *Monsignor Fabroni*, he was likewise assisted by several Cardinals, not with an intent that the Pope should make him Cardinal, for that they never dream'd of, but out of a pure Act of Friendship, among whom was *Albani* and *Spada*.

But otherwise, laying aside the Exception of his

his being a Monk, and of his mean Birth, the Pope's Resolution in making him Cardinal was not so much out of the way; he being, without Flattery, a great Divine, and a Man that understands Business well. Besides the aforesaid Qualities, he is chaste, sober, humble, cordial, genteel, serviceable, generous, and what is yet more wonderful, he carries off the Dignity of a Cardinal, as if he had been bred up to it from his Cradle, maintaining his Post with Stateliness and Haughtiness, which sometimes makes him be thought for proud.

In case of a Conclave he ought to joyn with the Faction of his Creator; but I am rather of Opinion that he'll go Hand in Hand with the Family of the *Barberins*, because of the Satisfaction they expressed at his being made Cardinal. In the Moment that he was promoted he was at the College for propagating the Faith, in the Exercise of his Office; and as soon as he was named in the Consistory, Cardinal *Francis Barberini* sent his Coach with his Master of Ceremonies, to bring him immediately to receive the Cardinal's Cap from his Holiness, and afterwards gave him Coaches, setts of Horses, Silver Plate, and every other thing that was necessary for setting up his Court as a Cardinal. This Cardinal professes likewise a particular Dependance on the House of *Medici*, which, I believe, helped him very much in obtaining the Post of General of his Order. This is all that can be said at present of this Cardinal; from his future Actions, when he shall be more advanced in Years, we shall gather such Prognosticks concerning his greater Fortune, as shall be just and dutiful.

THE
L I F E
O F

Francis Borgia,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Spain* the 27th of *March* 1659; and was promoted to the Cardinalship by *Innocent* the XIIth on the 21st of *June* 1700.

To describe all the Qualities of this great Cardinal, I need say no more of him, than that he is Son to the Duke of *Gandia*. When he was a little advanced in his Studies, he gave early Signs of the vast Progress he was like to make in them, by the great Application he was capable of, at an Age which usually entertains no other Thoughts than those of Pleasure and Diversion. In a few Years he gave such pregnant Demonstrations of his great Judgment on several Occasions,

fions, that every body concluded he could not fail of being dignified with the sacred Purple, and that he would prove one of the greatest Ornaments of the sacred College.

It was the great Interest the Countess of *Oropesa* had with the late Queen of *Spain*, that hinder'd this Cardinal from being promoted to the Purple Dignity some Years ago, when *Innocent* the XIIth made the Promotion for the Crowns in the Year 1697. For the said Countess, by her Interest with the Queen, made the King's Nomination be taken from *Borgia*, and given to *Salazar*, her most intimate Friend, and the Queen's own Confessor. However, his Holiness having been informed of the great Merit, and unspotted Life of *Borgia*, resolv'd to dignifie him with the Sacred Purple in his last Promotion, that the sacred College might be honour'd with such a worthy Member.

He is a Friend to all Men of Learning, and has such a happy Memory himself, that he retains still the things he read long ago when he was a Child. He has all along, even from his Youth, led a most exemplary Life, and is of a holy unblameable Conversation. He is so very charitable to the Poor, that there is not one that has recourse to him in their Wants, but he supplies them plentifully. He is ready to do Service to every body, and embraces all that come to him with a cordial Affection. He is not capable of denying a Favour to one that asks it, let it cost him never so dear. He is most generous, affable, ingenious, well-bred, and obliging, and his readiness to do Service to every body, together with the Innocence of his unspotted Life, makes him be greatly admir'd throughout the whole Kingdom

dom of *Spain*. He is a Man of great Learning, and is well versed in Morality, in the Councils, and in the Canons, and is an excellent Historian. He is constantly employed in Study, and delights much in reading any thing that is new, on which he spends all his time.

This Cardinal has never as yet had Dependence on any one, he never having been in *Rome*, and much less in a Conclave. Upon the vacancy of the Throne by the Death of *Innocent XII.* when the present Pope* was elected, the late King of *Spain*, *Charles II.* sent him to *Rome*, intrusting him with his Secret, that he might honour him above all the other Cardinals of his Faction. But the King falling sick, and dying, when the Cardinal was on his Journey, he was, for this Reason, recalled to the Court of *Spain*. The present Pope *Clement* the XIth being highly sensible of the great Merit of this Cardinal, has bestowed on him a rich Bishoprick, which will prevent his coming any more to *Rome*, except in the case of a Conclave. But the first time he comes here he will make a great Figure, because the Secret of the Crown of *Spain* will be always deposited in his Breast.

Finally, to sum up all the great Qualities of this Cardinal, I need only say, that he is descended of the Family of *St. Francis Borgia*, who was so great a Propagator of the Christian Faith. To say any thing here concerning this Cardinal's greater Fortune, in being exalted to the Papal Throne, is altogether needless; for at present it would

* *Clement XI.*

320 *The LIFE of, &c.*

would be great Vanity in him to hope for it, considering that he is so young in Years. But I believe, that with the Benefit of time he might bid as fair for it as any other Cardinal whatever, were he not a declared *Partisan* of one of the Crowns, he being hitherto in great Veneration with the Sacred College. So that we may say of him with the Wise Man, *Non virtus, non mores desunt, sed etas deficit.*



THE

THE
L I F E
O F

Antony Noailles.

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *France*, the 23th of *May* 1693; and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XIIth*; the 21st of *June* 1700.

If we were to frame a Model of Genteelness, we could not certainly find a Person fitter for our purpose than Cardinal *Noailles*. He Studied in his younger Days in the *Sorbonne*, where he made a wonderful Progress in his Studies, and even from that time gave proof of his great Capacity. The Fame of this great Cardinal being spread over all *France*, it came at last to the Ears of his most Christian Majesty, who resolv'd to experiment him on several Occasions; and having found him to be a Man of great Abilities, he thought fit to keep him near to his own Person, making him Archbishop of *Paris*.

Y

He

He endeavour'd with all dutiful Respect to excuse himself from accepting so considerable a Charge, which he out of Modesty refus'd a being superior to his Force. But no excuse being admitted, he enter'd to the Government of that considerable Church, where he has continued now several Years, and in which he has let the World see his great Prudence, Devotion, and Exemplarity of Life. There he attends to the good Government of his Flock, with a more than ordinary Vigilance, being wholly intent on doing Works of Piety, and keeping a good Discipline among his Clergy.

It is incredible what Alms he distributes among the poor People, and what other charitable Acts of Brotherly Love he exercises towards his Neighbour; so that in *Paris*, he has got himself the Name of being the common Father of the Poor. And to comprehend in one word all his good Qualities, I may say, that there is nothing of Merit which can be expected in an excellent Churchman, but what is to be found in this most worthy Prelate; and that for an Archbishop, he has not his Match. It is no wonder therefore, that *Innocent* the XIIth promoted him to the Cardinalship, that his great Merit might shine the brighter, and might some time or other meet with its adequate reward.

He is learned in several Sciences, and excellently well skilled in Church History, and in the sacred Canons; he is a great Historian, as well as a good Politician, and has a most happy Memory.

This being the first time that he ever was in the Conclave, he carried himself so very dexterously, with his Sweetness of Temper, and his Insinuating way of managing Business, that he
made

made Shift to come out of the Conclave with a Pope*, chosen out of one of the three Cardinals whose Advancement was recommended to him, in the Instructions he had from his Master, that is, *Spínola Santa Cecilia*, *Charles Barberini*, and *Albani*, on whom the Lot happily fell; so that this Cardinal, upon the account of his dexterous Management, has left a great Reputation behind him here in *Rome*.

He being the Head of the *French* Faction, and as yet too young to be *St. Peter's* Successor, it will be a long time before he can have any hopes of wearing the Triple Crown; so that we may give him the Wiseman's Advice, *Age gratias de his quæ recepisti, reliqua expetta.*

* *Clement XI.*

THE
LIFE

OF

Philip Lamberg,

Cardinal Priest.

HE was born in *Germany* the 23d of *April* 1636, was made Cardinal by *Innocent XII.* the 21st of *June* 1700.

The many Offices which he so worthily exercised in *Germany*, acquir'd him great Applause at the Imperial Court, wherefore he having already made some Progress in his Studies, he was advised to dedicate himself wholly to the Service of the Church. By this means he obtain'd the Emperor's Nomination to the Archbishoprick of *Passau*; in which Post he gave proof of his heroic Vertues, which were universally applauded; and whatever Merit can be expected in a worthy Churchman, it is to be met with in this Cardinal.

He

He is descended of a Family well affected to the Imperial Crown, and which has produced great Men, both for the Sword, and for the Gown, and we may say, that all the Virtues of his Ancestors are concenter'd in this most worthy Person; the Fame of whose Merit having reached the Ears of *Innocent* the XIIth, he would needs dignify him with the Purple, that by his Promotion he might add to the Splendor of the sacred College.

He is competently learned in several Sciences, but more especially in History, and in the Knowledge of State Affairs; and he is a Man to find some Evasion to the most desperate case that is. He is splendid in his way of living, but without any stiffness or affectation; he is full of Zeal, but it is guided with Discretion; so that the first time that he was in *Rome*, he afforded matter of wonder to the greatest Politicians. It is certain, that he has a Soul capable of every Virtue, and Courage to engage in any Undertaking.

In the first Conclave at which he was present, he gave sufficient Proof of his great Activity, finding always proper Expedients to adjust all Differences, and to content the adverse Parties; nay, with his free easie way, and his natural Genteelness, he withstood all the Oppositions made against him, giving great Satisfaction to all Persons, without Offence to any. His being so great an Alms-giver, was the Occasion that the People crowded always about him to salute him as he went out of his Palace; and it is given out for certain, that all the time that he was here in *Rome*, he never denied a Favour to any that ask'd it of him; and he was so charitable to those that were in want, that he order'd the Rests that came

from his Table to be distributed for the Relief of the Poor.

He is of Age sufficient to pretend to be St. Peter's Successor, but he being a Partisan of a Crown will obstruct his greater Fortune at present, otherwise he might hope, by the assistance of his rare Virtues, to be able to raise himself up to St. Peter's Chair, following the Advice of the Politician, *Non sine spe vivant homines.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Benedict Panfili,

First Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Rome* the 22d of *April* 1653, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the first of *September* 1681.

Out of Gratitude to *Innocent* the Xth, *Innocent* the XIth restor'd the Cardinal's Cap to his Family, in the Person of this Cardinal, whom he made likewise Prior of the Order of *Malta* in *Rome*, after the Death of Cardinal *Sigismund Chigi*. He is studious, and applys himself to the Classcal Learning, altho' he has taken his Degrees both in Law and Divinity; but being an Enemy to Application and Business, and much more to fatigue, he no sooner sets about doing any thing, than he immediately tires of it. He diverts himself with vocal and instrumental Mu-

sick, and is as ready to contract a Friendship, as he is to abandon it after it is contracted, and sometimes he'll embrace one as his sworn Brother, whom next Day he will not so much as look at, no more than if he had never seen him. He is a great Protector of Virtuofos, and charitable to the Churches; he distributes Alms liberally among the Necessitous, and is generous to the Poor that confide in him.

He has a great Vivacity, and formerly was very fantastical in his Ways. While the Princess of *Rossano* his Mother was alive, he shar'd of her lively Conversations, and of all her publick Actions; but having since her Death given himself wholly up to the Spirit, and being overcharged with Scruples and Melancholy, with which he is greatly troubled, he has laid aside all his Divertisements he so much delighted in, and his Love Intrigues, living at present in great Devotion, without retaining any thing of his former Capricios. And in the publick Conversations his Vivacity is not near so much admir'd now as formerly. He avoids the publick Functions, because of the Trouble of putting on his Cardinal's Robes, and much more his sacred Ones, or the great Cope, in the Chappels, and Consistories. He loves always to breath the open Air, and for that Reason, frequents the Country more than he ought, he suffers in his Health when he is penn'd up, so that he has a great Aversion to go into the Conclave, which he would by all means avoid, if the Point of Honour, and the Duty of Conscience did not oblige him to it.

He has compos'd several Poems with great Success; and the Oratories which he makes on several Occasions, as well as some most genteel
Come.

Comedies made by him, are received always with great Applause. He has an obliging Carriage, and a free easie way with him, is all Civility, and sometimes Interests himself for those that are his Dependants. He is learned, and has a great Knowledge of Affairs, is agreeable, and ingenuous; he is humble, liberal, and just; of which, and of his great Capacity, he gave sufficient Proof in the troublesome Legateship of *Bolonia*. There he shew'd himself to be not only disinterested, and magnificent, but splendid, and most generous in all his Actions, and particularly in the Reception he made to Foreigners. Moreover, without Prejudice either to the Pope, or to the State, he kept always a good Correspondence with the Neighbouring Princes; on which Rock the greatest part of the Legates of that Place do usually split. Besides, in order to extirpate the Thieves, which were in great Numbers in that City, he taking it for granted, that the Thefts were not committed without the tacit Consent of the *Sbirri* *, he obliged these to repair the Damages of the Owners of the Goods that were stolen; and from that time forth there were no more Thefts heard of.

He was sent Legate thither by *Alexander* the VIIIth, in recompence of the Cardinal's Cap, which he was bound to restore to his Family, as being a Creature of *Innocent* the Xth his Uncle. The present Pope *Pignatelli* gave him first the Archpriesthood of *Santa Maria Maggiore*, out of Gratitude that he had maintain'd in *Bolonia* what he had done when he was Legate there; contrary to *Negroni*, who succeeded

Pigna-

* Guards, such as the Sheriffs Men in *London*.

Pignatelli, and was *Pamfilio's* Predecessor, who overturn'd as much as he could all that *Pignatelli* had establish'd there according to Justice. The Pope likewise made him Superintendant of the Port of *Antium*, in which Charge he having labour'd very hard, his Holiness confer'd on him the Archpriesthood of *St. John Lateran*, instead of the first of *Santa Maria Maggiore*, that Church having been restor'd by *Innocent the Xth* his Uncle.

Upon the Death of Cardinal *Chigi*, he was elected Protector of the Archfraternity of the holy Crucifix of *St. Marcellus*, to which he contributed even from the beginning large Sums, and has now lately given them two thousand Crowns, towards the great Charges they are at this holy Year. To the Clementine College, of which likewise he was made Protector, as being Son to the last Branch of the House of *Aldobrandini*, Founders of the said College, he has contributed several Sums, for the greater Conveniency of those Students, and has lately given a thousand Crowns towards enlarging the Court for the Manage. In fine, he lets slip no Opportunity of exerting his Generosity, except it be where he is bound to contribute something of his own Fatigue, of which he is very sparing, as well as of his Constancy.

In other Respects, if we consider his graceful Presence, his Learning, his Generosity, and his Stateliness, he is bright as the Sun. But as to his Manners, his Behaviour, his Humour, and his Resolutions, he is changeable as the Moon; however with this Difference, that the Moon toils, and is ever in motion, where-

as

as he would never willingly move himself, nor be at any toil. In former Days, Pleasure and Pastime was his predominant Passion, and the first Element of his Body; but now, that by his Inconstancy he is changed to the better, methinks we may appropriate to him the Sentence of *Tacitus*, with which he upbraided a Platonick Philosopher. *Nil felicitati mee deest, nisi moderatio.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Fulvius Astalli,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Rome* the 14th of *July* 1655; and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XI*, the 2d of *September* 1686.

He is a Person of great Hopes, and although young, yet his Conduct is such that it is beyond Exception. He keeps his Conscience unspotted, and lives with great Modesty, and greater Resignation. He is studious, diligent, attentive, circumspect, and retired, taking Pleasure in nothing but in Business and Study, whence it is that in the Congregations of which he is a Member, his Vote is of great weight. During the Life of Cardinal *Chigi* he administer'd for a long time in his stead, the Office of President of the Court of Appeals*, in which he gain'd great Applause. And in the time of the long sickness of this Cardinal his Kinsman, and even when he was at a great distance from Court, he was named

* *Segnatura di Giustizia.*

med by *Clement* the Xth one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, altho' he was not above sixteen Years old, and had but lately put on the Clerical Habit, so that he was obliged to go to *Perugia*, there to continue his Studies till he was of Age to enter into Prelature. Beside, he was made Commissary of Arms, in the discharge of which Office he acquitted himself to the great Satisfaction of *Innocent* the XIth, who for that reason advanced him to the Cardinalship, and likewise under Pretext of gratifying the Roman Nobility.

He is capable of Business, indefatigably laborious, well informed of the Interests of Princes, and better instructed in the Rights of the Holy See. He is of a civil Behaviour, of a sweet agreeable Humour, and moderate in his Thoughts, He is devout, zealous, and extreamly civil; but his Devotion is attended with Clemency, his Zeal with Discretion, and his Civility with Decorum. He is sufficiently learned, and improves daily, he plying his Studies hard, altho' he has the Vanity to be thought rather a Master than a Scholar. He is grey hair'd, 'tis true, but to be Pope he wants those Years which other Cardinals could well spare him, altho' many accuse him of too great Presumption, in endeavouring to appear old before his time.

By this Pope he was sent to be Legate of *Urbino*, and afterwards had the Legateship of *Romagna*, and last of all that of *Ferrara*; and in all the three Provinces he acquitted himself most gloriously, without being any way byass'd by Interest, altho' poor; or accus'd of the least Injustice, altho' young. He is courteous, but grave; obliging, but reserv'd; has a particular genius to meddle in all Affairs whatsoever, but because of
his

his Inclination to punctilios, has not that Success in Business which he both desires and deserves. In Cardinal *Chigi's* Lifetime he pretended to govern his Faction, for which reason he was pleasantly check'd one Day in the Conclave by the late Cardinal *Peter Ottoboni*, (afterwards Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth,) when his Friends were concerting Methods for raising him to the Papacy, and this Cardinal was carrying on the Project with too great Heat, *Ottoboni* said to him, *Mr. Cardinal, I beg it of you as a Friend, that when any thing for my Advantage is upon the Wheels, you'll be pleas'd to lay aside the Command, and content your self barely with obeying.* In the next Conclave, if he is not otherwise determin'd by the Gratitude he owes to *Don Livio Odescalchi*, there's no doubt he'll go Hand in Hand with the *Austrian* Faction, because of the Hopes he has of governing which way he will Cardinal *Medici*, for whose Family he has a most dutiful Respect.

He has always cultivated with great Attention, an humble and cordial Correspondence with the Emperor and his Catholick Majesty, which renders him very acceptable to those two Crowns; nor is it to be doubted, that were it not for the view he has of attaining in due time to the Triple Crown, he would have e'er now set up the Arms of *Spain*, and declared himself a Partizan of that Court. He likewise keeps a good Understanding with all the Princes, and that because of the genius he has to beg Business in all the Foreign Courts. Hence it is that his Enemies have upbraided him with too great Presumption, and no less Pride, in attributing to his own Merit, and that of his Family, all those Honours, which he obtain'd even in an unripe Age. He has indeed

deed put himself upon a Ceremonial very far different from what has been practic'd by other Cardinals nothing inferior to him in Birth; and in some things he uses that which is only due to a Cardinal that has been in Possession of the Pontifical Nepotism. This wavering of Mind is supposed by many that are not well affected to him, to proceed from the weakness of his own Judgment and Understanding, and from his supposing that there is nothing requir'd to make one a Person of great Merit, but to believe himself to be such, and that Sciences and Virtues may be acquir'd in a Dream, without any Maturity of Study, which is no less necessary than a long Experience.

In other respects he was, even in his younger Days, of a good moral Life; and is an honest Man, just, and much inclin'd to Piety; but too full of Business, ambitious of governing, and totally averse to subject himself to the Commands of others. In all his three Legateships he maintain'd his Integrity, which made some look upon him as too severe, every one desiring Clemency in his own Case, and Justice only in the Case of another.

T H E
L I F E
O F

Francis Mary Medici,
Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Florence* the 12th of *November* 1667, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIth the second of *September* 1686.

Atho' it is a Maxim with Politicians *to speak but little of God, and nothing at all of Princes*, yet this Rule suffers an Exception in so worthy and deserving a Person as this Cardinal, whose Heroical Virtues deserve to be set forth by the most learned Pens. He has a vast Soul, a consummated Prudence, a great Quickness of Discerning, and a Capacity for every thing; he is a Friend to all honest Men, and charitable to the Poor. In all his Proceedings he aims at nothing but Glory, which is the Reason why he succeeds so wonderfully well in every thing he undertakes.

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He was in his younger Days first educated by the Marquis *Horace Balalti Nerli*, and afterwards by Count *Philip D'Elci*, at present his Master of Ceremonies; by whose care he was particularly instructed in Christian Piety, and in the Studies fit for a Gentleman. As soon as he was got out from under the Custody of his Governour, and out of his Minority, the great Duke his Brother, out of his Royal Munificence, gave him the Government of *Sienna*, which he exercises at present to his own great Praise, and to the greater Satisfaction of the Subjects. During his Government, there has never been any Person that could accuse him of the least Misdemeanor in his Administration; on the contrary, they all applaud him for his Generosity, and Liberality, for the Alms which he distributes plentifully among the Poor, and for his upright Administration of Justice, which he accompanies likewise with a particular Clemency.

He is Grand Prior of the Order of *Malta* in *Pisa*, Abbot of *St. Galgano* in *Sienna*, and great Protector of the Empire, and of the *Spanish* Dominions, the Monarch of which has gratified him with plentiful Revenues. He was deservedly promoted to the Purple by *Innocent* the XIth, who by this Promotion, as he did Justice to this Prince's Merit, so he render'd the sacred College more illustrious by the Addition of so great a Heroe.

In the two Conclaves, in which he has been present, he has given sufficient Proof of his great Ability in Negotiations, having come out of the Conclave at both times with a Pope according to his Mind. In the first Vacancy of the See, his great Judgment and Policy will yet shine more brightly, he alone being the Atlas of the

House of *Austria*, bearing the weight both of the Imperial and *Spanish* Factions. He will not want Cardinals enough who will be ready to assist him in the Conclave, more out of Vanity, and for their own Interest, than out of any Design to advance his Reputation, or that they think he stands in need of their Assistance. Others out of Envy will insinuate to the Imperial and *Spanish* Ambassadors, that they ought to be upon their Guard, lest the Interest of the House of *Medici* prevail over that of the Two Crowns; but they being great Politicians will clearly see, that without this Cardinal's Assistance they will be in hazard of having a Pope altogether of a *French* Genius. And altho' the Cardinals of the Imperial and *Spanish* Faction should refuse to go along with this Cardinal, yet he would be always back'd by the Cardinals of his own Country, who are Subjects, and others who are Dependants of his Family, and who are in much greater Number than one can well imagine. For which Reason it is not to be question'd but Cardinal *de Medici* will always make a great Figure in *Rome*, and especially in the Conclaves, not only because of his being in great esteem with the sacred College, but also because of his great Authority with the Two Crowns of the House of *Austria*.

The great Proof of his Ability in the Management of Affairs which he gave some Years ago, upon the Occasion of the Marriage of the Queen of the *Romans* at *Modena*, made every Body admire his wise Conduct, and great Activity; he finding always new Expedients to adjust all Differences, and to satisfy the adverse Parties, overcoming all Difficulties, even those that in their own Nature seem'd to be insuperable. And with his unimitable free easie way, and his Natural Genteelness

ness of Temper, he kept up on this Occasion the Character not only of his own high Dignity, but likewise of that of his illustrious Family, giving great Satisfaction to all Parties, without the least Prejudice to any. The Duke of *Modena*, altho' of a Temper very delicate, was so very well satisfied with this Cardinal's Conduct, and had in such admiration the Greatness of his Merit, and his Superiority in managing Affairs, that now he swears by Cardinal *de Medici* as his prodigious Deity. And indeed who else but his Royal Highness could have dared to interpose himself between Cardinal *Boncompagni* the Pope's Legate, and the Count of *Windityzar* the Emperor's Envoy? Who but he could have been able to bring the first to milder Conditions than those which were prescribed him from *Rome* in his Instructions, and fomented by word of mouth by the Abbot *Chiappone*, one of the first Masters of Ceremony, whom the Pope sent with him on purpose? He alone was able to overcome the Obstinacy of the Emperor's Minister, in adhering to the Orders which he brought from *Vienna*, quite contrary to the Ceremonial of *Rome*, and keeping up the Difference which the Count of *Martinitz* the Emperor's Ambassador had with this Court, and who, because of the known Disgusts between the Court of *Rome*, and that of *Vienna*, could have wish'd the Pope's Legate had not been receiv'd.

In such Straits and Difficulties, no Body but this Cardinal was able to reunite the disagreeing Minds of the Parties, to satisfy the nice Scrupulosity of the Duke, altho' in a manner not to be contented, because of his being of so delicate a Temper, and to bring to Reason the obstinate *German*, notwithstanding the Resolution he had

340 *The LIFE of, &c.*

taken of coming to no manner of Agreement with the Pope's Minister. And all this Proceeding was approv'd, not only by the Emperor himself, but likewise by all his Court, where at present Cardinal *de Medici* is justly ador'd as an Oracle of Merit, and of Policy. So that to describe in a few words the Qualities of this Cardinal, we shall only, say that his great Name alone comprehends the Quality of the wisest, the genteelest, the best bred, the most active, and most glorious Person that ever added Lustre to the sacred Purple. But I'll say no more of the heroical Qualities of this Cardinal, lest I exceed the Bounds of an Historian, it being impossible to reduce within the compass of a few Lines the vastness of his Merit and Worth. For which Reason I shall say with *Testi*,

——— è più Loquace,
D'una Lingua che parla, un cuor che tace.

And I may conclude the History of this Cardinal, as Count *Emanuel Tesauro* concluded his Panegyrick on the Duke of *Savoy*, with turning to the Duke's Picture when he ended his Discourse, and saying, *Lingua fileat ubi ipse exemplo docet.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Peter Ottoboni,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Venice* the 2d of *July* 1667; and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 7th of *November* 1689.

He came young from *Venice*, under the Education of the deceased Cardinal *Peter Ottoboni* his Uncle, who made his Nephew always apply himself to study, and to useful and virtuous Diversifements. He had a particular Inclination to Musick, to Poetry, and to the Classical Learning, composing Words for Airs, Comedies, and Oratories. When *Morosini* Captain General of the *Venetian* Forces was chosen Doge, this Cardinal made a very fine Academy in his own Chamber, in praise of the said Doge, there being present many Cardinals, a great Number of Pre-

lates and Nobles, and the greatest part of the Virtuosos in *Rome*. Upon that Occasion he shew'd his great Wit, and let the World see his Genius for all virtuous Exercises. The old Uncle put his Nephew upon this, that he might get himself the Character among the Cardinals, and at the Court of *Rome*, of being an industrious and virtuous young Man. He having establish'd to himself by this means a good Reputation, there was no Exception made upon his account, to his Uncle in the following Conclave, in which he was exalted to the Papacy under the Name of *Alexander* the VIIIth.

This great Politician, the same Night that he was made Pope, sent for his Nephew to the Palace, and out of the great Affection which he had for him, resolv'd within himself to enter him in the Order of Ecclesiasticks. But Cardinal *Chigi* having made himself Author of *Ottoboni's* Exaltation to the Papacy, in hopes of marrying to the Pope's Nephew *Donna Costanza Chigi*, who is now Wife to *Don Emilius Altieri* Duke of *Monterano*, and of having likewise a Cardinal's Cap to *Monfignor Zanzedari* his Nephew, according as the Pope himself had promised him; his Holiness therefore, that he might not seem all of a sudden to break his Word to Cardinal *Chigi*, by making his Nephew *Don Peter* a Clergyman, he order'd his said Nephew to go next Morning to visit Cardinal *Cybo*, Dean of the Sacred College, and after him Cardinal *Chigi* Subdean, that he might thank the first for the Concurrence of all th Cardinals to his Exaltation, and the second for having been the Author of it; and at the same time, to supplicate his Eminence that he would obtain leave of his Uncle the Pope, for him to put himself in Priest's Orders, to which he had
a great

a great Inclination, and not to marry as his Holiness would have him.

Don Peter punctually executed what the Pope had enjoyn'd him, and Cardinal *Chigi* took his Request so much to Heart, that being at that time indisposed in his Health, he could never afterwards recover it, so much was he griev'd to see himself thus shamefully baffled by that old cunning Fox of a Pope. His Holiness, on the other Hand, being willing to appease the Cardinal, that his breach of Promise, and his Ingratitude might not be made publick, offer'd to marry his Nephew *Don Mark* to the said *Donna Costanza*; but *Chigi* would never listen to any such Proposal, shewing himself publickly on all Occasions to be discontented. In a few Days, *Don Peter* was made Prelate Protonotary Apostolick Participant, and within a Month after his Uncle's Exaltation to *St. Peter's* Chair, he was promoted to the Cardinalship, and was likewise made Vice Chancellor and *Sommist* of the Holy See, and in a short time the Pope conferr'd on him Church Benefices to the value of above thirty thousand Crowns a Year. Which great Sum was excessive with respect to the short Reign of the said Nepotism, but very much inferior to the vast Generosity of his Eminence, who with a Soul truly glorious has spent Treasures in these ten Years that he has been Cardinal. During the sixteen Months that *Alexander* the VIIIth reign'd, he was able to supply the infinite Sums he laid out, partly with the Assistance of the Treasury, and partly with the Authority of the reigning Pope. His Uncle the Pope being dead, he began to run himself more and more in Debt, and he perceiv'd himself to be indebted five and twenty thousand Crowns, which he had contracted insensibly when

he was the Favourite and governing Cardinal, which are now increased to above a hundred thousand.

He very soon lost his Credit with the publick to such a degree, that not finding any more Money to take up at Interest, he was forced to sell many Jewels, and to lay in Pawn a great many more to have ready Money. At last he sold off a great many Pensions that were due to him, the loss of which would have considerably diminished his income, if it had not been on the other Hand increased by the Death of a great many Persons to whom he was bound to give Pensions, his Uncle having given to this Cardinal Benefices with a great many Pensions on them to old People, that they might be the sooner extinguished. In fine, this Cardinal refusing to restrict himself to a Life that is less expensive, and to subject himself to a necessary Oeconomy by spending less, or at least no more, than his income; it is evident that he will bring himself always into greater Difficulties, at which every body will be highly concern'd, he alone making a greater Figure than any of the Cardinals, or indeed than any other Person whatever in *Rome*, his Glory resounding in all Places.

He has the Soul of an Emperor, nor is there any glorious Action done by any Prince but what he endeavours to imitate, entertaining the People with Comedies, Operas, Puppet Shows, Oratories, and Academies. He is magnificent in his Alms, in his Presents, and in the Entertainments he gives on the Occasion of any Festival. He has likewise in the Ecclesiastical Functions shew'd his great Piety, having instituted the Procession of the Octave of *Corpus Domini* in *St. Laurence* in *Damazo*, giving to his great Cost the Torch and the Sack to all that assist at the Procession,

cession. He is also at the Charges of setting up a most noble piece of Perspective, representing some History, on the Occasion of the Sacrament's being exposed for forty Hours in the said Church of St. *Laurence*, on the last *Thursday* of Carnival time; adorning his said Titular Church most splendidly upon all the Feasts, as likewise that of his Abbey in *Albano*, with a Majesty and Magnificence nothing inferior to any Prince. His Palace is the Resort of all the Virtuofos, and the Refuge of the Poor.

In his own Parish he entertains a Physician, a Surgeon, and an Apothecary, for the use of every body that stands in need of their Assistance. He distributes a great many Dowrys among the young Women of the said Parish; he gives great and constant Alms, and enriches, to his great Praise, the said Church, as well as other Churches of which he is Protector, with Silver Plate, and all other Ornaments necessary for the Service of the Church. Moreover, there is no Quarrel but what he strives to accommodate, and there happens no Misfortune but what he endeavours to remedy; neither does he let slip any Opportunity wherein he can do good to his Neighbour, or be serviceable to any body.

From these Descriptions it clearly appears, that this Cardinal is most generous, serviceable and charitable; magnanimous, friendly and obliging; that he is studious and learned; a Man of Honour, and most punctual to his Word; he is tender-hearted, nourishes vast Ideas, and professes a true Friendship; he has a great Capacity, a quick and ready Apprehension, and a Judgment much superior to his Years. Having been made Cardinal when he was but two and twenty Years old, he got the Character of leading a licentious Life;
and

and altho' in effect he was not very orderly, yet he was not scandalous, as he was represented to the World, rather on the account of the Life of *Don Anthony* his Father, than for his own Actions; for the Cardinal never boasted of his own lewdness, as his Father did. At present he lives very retir'd, applying himself for the most part to Business, and to the study of those Affairs that come before the Congregations of which he is a Member; composing Poems in those leisure Hours, which every one does not employ so virtuously as he does.

His Adversaries nevertheless, who are not few in number have traduced him as being of an inconstant Temper, Punctilious, and of a vulgar Spirit, having kept about him as his Favorites, *Niccoli*, the Abbot *Tassi a Modenese*, and the Abbot *Nipoti*, all whom he afterwards turn'd off, besides a great many others of an inferior Rank. He fell out likewise with the Advocate *Lucini*, who was so much his intimate Friend when he was in a lower Station, and for this he was highly blamed, the said Advocate having been greatly instrumental in the Exaltation of his Uncle; he having persuaded, with his great Rhetorick, *Don Livio Odescalchi*, to take off his thoughts from advancing any of his own Creatures, and to joyn in the Election of *Ottoboni*; altho' his Faction was stronger than any other, as being superior in number to the half of the remaining part of the Cardinals; I may say, as making up two thirds of the Conclave, because of the eight Cardinals Caps that were then vacant.

His Enemies likewise accuse him of being of a mean, low Spirit, and there is no doubt, but in his younger Days he gave some Signs of it, by countenancing those abject Persons already mention'd.

tion'd. But in that he was to be pitied, because in the Straits to which he was reduced, by the avarice of his Uncle when he was Cardinal; he not being able to appear with that Splendor which his noble and generous Soul aim'd at, chose rather to debase himself by a familiar acquaintance with those mean Persons, than to expose himself publickly in more honourable Conversations, without being able to make the same Figure there as the rest of his Equals. Being elevated afterwards to the degree of Nepotism, he was not willing to shew himself ungrateful to those Persons, altho' after having gratified them, he removed them from his Service, that he might not be blamed for keeping them any longer about his Person; he fearing lest the bad repute they were in, might prove prejudicial to his own Credit. But now in the Case of any vacancy in his Court, he takes none but noble and virtuous Persons into his Service.

During the Life of *Alexander* the VIIIth, he was suspected by the House of *Austria*, as being too partial to *France*, and at the Death of his Uncle, he prostituted himself as it were to that Crown, assuring it that he had not the least Knowledge, much less any Hand in the greatly applauded Brief of that Pope, wherein he annulled all that had been decreed in *Paris*, in that Assembly of the Clergy in the Year 1682, against the Authority of the Pope, and the Rights of the Holy See. In that Conclave he carried himself with great circumspection, and obliged infinitely the *Spaniards*, as also the Imperialists, by concurring in the Exaltation of *Pignatelli*, who was at that time judg'd to be wholly of the *Austrian* Party. In this Pope's Pontificate he has carried himself very cunningly, but in the late
Illness

Illness of the Pope. last Spring, he had engaged himself deeply with the *French*, to such a degree, that he was near submitting himself to the Will of Cardinal *Bouillon*, had not he been forewarn'd of it by the prudent Cardinal *del Giudice*. However, Cardinal *Bouillon* would needs have assurance from Cardinal *Ottoboni*, that there should be no Pope made before the arrival of all the *French* Cardinals, in case his present Holiness should die sooner than was expected, as the Physicians seem'd to be in some doubt of it; but *Ottoboni*, back'd by *Giudice*, would engage only for his own Creatures.

He has now taken up a Resolution of being indifferent with respect to the Crowns, endeavouring not to render himself suspicious to any of them, and to be well with all the Princes, that he may not be the aim of the Malice of any one of them; observing likewise the same Rule with all the other Factions of the Cardinals, by which means he hopes to be sole Arbiter of the first Conclave. At present, he endeavours to insinuate himself into the Confidence of the Queen of *Poland*, which cannot be but of Advantage to him, in acquiring to him all her Adherents, and giving him hopes likewise of gaining over to his Interests *Don Livio Odescalchi*, and his Creatures. The Criticks, who have no regard to any political Reflexions, have given out that this his intimacy with the Queen does not proceed from Party or State Affairs, but barely from his own Vanity, that he may be thought the Sovereign Disposer of the Queen's Heart, not to say any more; whereas such a Thought ought not to enter into any body's Mind, to the Prejudice of her Sacred and Royal Name.

With

With respect to his Native Country, it is certain that he will do every thing for it that is not to the Prejudice of his own Interest, he having it in his view to engage the Republick to grant to his Father the same Honours which the other Procurators in *Venice* enjoy, and which were refused to him alone for Reasons that are known. As to his Inclination for the Choice of a Successor to *St. Peter's* Chair, there is no doubt but he wishes for *Costaguti's* Exaltation preferably to all others, looking upon him as the likeliest to succeed, and as the most agreeable to his own Inclinations. In outward appearance, he will show the same partiality for *Panciatichi* his first Creature, but in reality he will not confide in him, having made but little account of his wise Counsels for the time past, and judging him incapable of tolerating any licentiousness, or of adhering to his Engagements.

In fine, *Ottoboni* will do his utmost Endeavours to advance *Costaguti*, who is the only darling of his Soul; but in case he see it impossible to succeed in that, he will not willingly concur in the Exaltation of any other Person than whom he judges to be of an easie Temper, and favourable to him, from whom he may expect some rich Abbey, to enable him the better to supply his excessive Charges. He endeavours what he can to have the Crown of *Spain* friendly to him, that the Partisans of that Court may not be his Enemies, and he strives to reconcile the Viceroy of *Naples* with Cardinal *Giudice* his Creature whom he most esteems, even altho' he is list'd with the *Spaniards*. In *France* he does not want Friends, neither does his most Christian Majesty in the least doubt of his Fidelity to his Interest. He hopes to get into the Emperor's Confidence by the means

means of the Friendship he has with Count *Martinitz*, as also by the Mediation of the Queen of *Poland*. The greatest Difficulty, that I consider his Eminence will have with any foreign State, or with any of the Cardinals, will be because of his aversion to concur in the Exaltation of *Colloredo*, not so much for the several jarrings they have had with one another, as because of the contrariety of their Humours; whereas it is more than certain, that the Republick of *Venice* will endeavour to place the Triple Crown on the Head of the said Cardinal preferably to any other, whom we cannot, in all appearance, suppose to be very acceptable to *Ottoboni*, for the reason already mention'd. It is without reason, that People apply to this Cardinal the Elegy which a certain Historian makes of a learned and wise Prince, *Prorsus inertem dices, nisi licentiâ superasset verecundiam.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Charles Bichi,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Sienna* the 5th of *May* 1639, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander* the VIIIth the 13th of *February* 1690.

He is learned in the Laws, and well versed in the Interests of Princes; he is studious, and laborious, but too tenacious of his own Opinion, with which he is blinded to such a degree, that he sometimes loses the Light of Reason. He is so set on punctilios, that to defend and maintain them he does not care whom he displeases, being inflexible in Treaties, and revengeful when he has taken a Disgust at any one. He is intirely of the *Sienna* Humour, contrary to the Temper of all others, who study on all Occasions to make to themselves Friends, and to oblige their Acquaintances; but he beats his Brains to make to himself

self Enemies, and to disgust all Mankind ; he catches Flies in the Air, and has no rest himself, but when he disturbs the Quiet of others. Whilst his eldest Brother the Marquis was alive, he did not so much as allow him to make use of his Primogeniture, and after his Death he made him be declar'd as it were a Bankrupt, not suffering his own Children to enter Heirs to him, (which in that Country is a reproachful and ignominious thing,) that he might by this means defraud his Brother's Creditors of their Debts, and his Sister in Law of her Jointure. She is Daughter to the late Duke of *Amalfi*, *Piccolomini* by Name, and being deprived of her Patrimony is reduced at present to great Straits, altho' she lives in the Court of the great Princess of *Tuscany*.

Here in *Rome* he has not lived in good Intelligence with the rich Marchioness of *Ruspoli* his Sister, nor has he studied her Decorum in turning out of the House those who so faithfully served her. After the Death of the rich Marquis of *Ruspoli* his Brother in Law, he would never suffer his Sister to live in Friendship with Cardinal *Marescotti*, and Count *Capizzucchi* her own Brothers in Law, notwithstanding the advantageous Offers they made her, and her own Inclination to entertain a good Correspondence with them. When Cardinal *Bichi* her Brother gives her any Disturbance, she immediately sends him word to go out of her House, and threatens to take in, in his place, her Brother in Law Cardinal *Marescotti*, the bare Mention of which is enough to make him quiet as a Lamb. In the last Conclave he openly declar'd, that he did not care who was chosen Pope, provided *Marescotti*, and the deceased Cardinal *Capizzucchi* were excluded. In the next Vacancy it is probable he will, for the
same

same Reason, do his utmost Endeavours to exclude not only *Marescotti* himself, but likewise Cardinal *del Verme* his Relation. This Cardinal, who is otherwise a great Man, deserves to be pitied for these his cross Humours, since in stead of living well with his Relations and Allies, which would advance him in his hopes of attaining to greater Dignities, he consumes himself with Anger and Peevishness to his own Destruction; and that only with a Design to crush those Persons, to whose Blood he owes not only the great Riches his Sister enjoys at present, but even his own. In other respects he is a Man of Probity and Honour, of a good moral Life, and free from those Vices which for the most part make even the wisest Men prevaricate. From his Youth he has always lived with great Decency and Regularity.

He is Nephew to the deceased *Alexander Bichi*, of glorious Memory, who did not want Merit enough to deserve to sit in *St. Peter's* Chair, but was excluded from it because of his having declared himself a Partizan of *France*. From which Crown the present Cardinal has had great Benefices, and particularly the rich Abbey of *Mont Maggiore* in *Arles*, which yields twelve thousand Crowns a Year. But in the time that he was Auditor of the Treasury under the Pontificate of *Innocent* the XIth, because of the known Disgusts which his most Christian Majesty received from his Holiness in the Person of his Ambassador the Marquis of *Lavardin*, and for many other Causes, under pretext that *Monsignor Bichi* would not set up the Arms of *France*, which he refused to do, because of his being a Principal Minister of the Apostolick See, the King of *France* took from him the Revenue of his

Abbey, and gave it to the great Hospital for the new Converts; for which reason the *French* will never confide in him, they knowing him to be of a Nature altogether implacable. Many Persons have been of Opinion, that he privately receives something out of the said Abbey, but the most sensible People believe nothing of it, considering that he is of a Temper not easily to be contented, and consequently incapable of satisfying himself with a little, when in Justice the whole belongs to him. Besides, it is notorious, that his most Christian Majesty has offer'd several times to restore to him the said Abbey, and to give him other Benefices, on condition that he declare himself of his Faction, by setting up the Arms of *France*; but he has always refused to comply with it, that he might not lose his Liberty, or rather his hopes of wearing the Triple Crown.

He lives in so great Expectation of being one Day St. *Peter's* Suceffor, that having communicated his Thoughts about it to his Secretary the Abbot *Baba a Venetian*, he already fancies that he sees him with the Triple Crown on his Head, with the same Facility that he entertain'd the like Hopes of the deceased Cardinal *Laurio*, whom he serv'd likewise in the same Post of Secretary; and he is so much blinded with this Persuasion, that he falls out into Passion with every one, who speaking of the Persons most likely to be Pope, does not name this his Master. In the first place, he draws Conjectures from the impossibility of his being excluded by the Emperor, because of his being disgusted at the *French* on account of the forementioned Wrong they have done him; and because he has endeavour'd to cultivate an intimate Friendship with the two last Ambassadors

dors from the Emperor, *Lichtenstein*, and *Martinitz*. He was likewise in great Friendship with Cardinal *Goes*, and at present keeps Correspondence with Cardinal *Kolonitz*, as also here in *Rome* with Father *Slavata* a German, one of the bare-footed *Carmelites*, whom he gets always to mention something in his Favour, in the familiar Letters he writes to the Emperor.

He has endeavour'd to persuade the Duke of *Medina Celi*, formerly Ambassador at this Court, but now Viceroy of *Naples*, and the Count of *Altamira* his Successor, that he is most partially inclin'd to the Crown of *Spain*, in which Court, by means of his Fellow-creature the Cardinal *del Giudice's* Interest, with his Brother the Duke of *Giovinazzo*, he has got several Projects to be set on foot in his Favour. But to his Misfortune he has not had that Credit there which he expected; neither has it any thing availed him to shew his open Enmity with the two French Cardinals *d'Estrées* and *Fanson*, all this having acquired him no Merit with any of the *Austrian* Party, except *Martinitz* alone, who believes him to be a Heroe, and consequently as fair to be Pope as any other.

He hopes for the Protection of the Crown of *France*, notwithstanding the Opposition he knows will be made to him by the two foresaid Cardinals of that Nation; and that because of his having deserv'd it by right of Succession to the Merits of his Ancestors with that Crown, as also because of the great Friendship he now has with Cardinal *Bouillon*; who in a short time will be able to give him little Assistance, his Eminence not being in that Esteem with his most Christian Majesty which he deserves. Besides, in good Politicks this Monarch will never trust him, after

having given him such a sensible Occasion of Disgust, as is already said, by taking from him so great a Revenue, and he being of a Temper so much addicted to Interest.

The Senate of *Venice* will be always favourable to his Pretensions, because of the Memory of the deceased Cardinal *Alexander Bichi* his Uncle, who in the time of *Urban* the VIIIth being Plenipotentiary for his most Christian Majesty, procured, altho' not by fair Means, the Peace of *Italy*, and particularly between that Pope and the said Republick, at the time that *Erizzo*, Grandfather to the present *Venetian* Ambassador at this Court was *Doge*. For this Reason he has been earnestly recommended by the Senate to Cardinal *Ottoboni*; but his Eminence does not trust him, altho' his own Creature; however he answer'd the Senate in Terms full of Esteem and Respect for him, knowing his high and capricious Humour, which he experimented to be such in the last Conclave, when he found he could not rely upon him so much as he might have justly expected. The great Friendship which he professes for Cardinal *Albani*, makes him hope for his Assistance in his Adversities; but by being so assiduously with that Cardinal, he sometimes renders himself Troublesome to him. He has the Advantage of being the third Cardinal of his Family in the third Generation, he himself having been created by *Alexander* the VIIIth, his Uncle the late Cardinal *Alexander Bichi* by *Urban* the VIIIth, and by *Paul* the Vth the deceased Cardinal *Metellus* Archbishop of *Sienna*, who was his Father's Uncle. He has enter'd into Prelature *Monsignor Vincent* his Nephew, who being one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, and in good repute, may justly hope to succeed his Uncle

in

in the Purple Dignity. As for his other Nephews, he has given them all good Education, instructing them in all manner of Sciences, and has been only too austere with them, in keeping them too rigorously to their Studies. But because of his own Craft and Subtlety, he has not been able as yet to effectuate for them any one Match, of the many he has been hitherto projecting for them.

He put on the Habit of a Prelate in the time of *Alexander* the VIIth, and ever since has shew'd an Aversion to the House of *Chigi*, because he thought he did not meet with that Gratitude from them which he expected; it having been the Cardinal his Uncle, together with the deceased Cardinal *Sacchetti*, that contributed most to the Exaltation of that Pope, having procured for him the Consent of the Crown of *France*.

Towards the latter end of *Clement* the IXth's Life, he was made one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, together with *Costaguti*, and *Negroni*, who are all three at present Cardinals; and by *Innocent* the XIth he was declared Auditor of the same; in the Discharge of which Office he gave great Proof of his Learning, and Justice, as he has likewise done, since his Advancement to be a Cardinal, in all the Congregations of which he is a Member, where his Vote is highly esteemed.

There is no doubt but he will use all manner of Endeavours for his own Advancement, and when he sees all his Hopes gone, he will bestir himself for the Promotion of *Acciajoli*, in hopes to get into the Palace; the bare Thoughts of which will always strike Terrour into all the Crowns, and much more into all the Princes of *Italy*, but still more particularly the great Duke

of *Toscany*. He has a great many more Enemies than he imagines, and they cannot bear to think that he should fancy himself well with the *French* and *Austrians* at the same time ; because that notwithstanding his changeableness of Humour, appearing sometimes to be *French*, and sometimes of the *Austrian* Party with the *Spaniards* and *Germans*, he continues always the same Man, and indeed would endeavour to appear such, if he followed the Instructions of *Plato*, *Idem semper velle, & idem semper nolle, id est sapientia.*

T H E
L I F E
O F

Joseph Renate Imperiale,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Francavilla* in the Kingdom of *Naples* the 26th of *April* 1651, and was made Cardinal by Pope *Alexander* the VIIIth the 13th of *February* 1690.

This most worthy Cardinal, altho' but young in Years, is a true Pattern of a Political Ecclesiastick Prince. He is learned in the Laws, studious, of great Application, cunning, active, and of a free easie Carriage; he is serviceable, obliging, charitable, and generous; he is a Man of Honour, of Integrity, of great Capacity, and greater Conduct; loving always to be imployed, and sometimes easie to engage himself in difficult Undertakings. He has always from his Infancy led a good Life, and has upon some Occasions appear'd with great Splendor and Magnificence, al-

tho' otherwise he knows very well how to manage his Revenue.

He has a great Inclination to command, and a greater Repugnancy to be under Subjection. Having been educated in the School of that cunning Fox the deceased Cardinal *Imperiale* his Uncle, who was Head of the flying Squadron, he enter'd into Prelature, buying a Commissioner's Place in the Treasury, under *Clement* the Xth. *Innocent* the XIth made him his Treasurer General, and by *Alexander* the VIIIth, he was promoted to the Cardinalship, and likewise declared Legate of *Ferrara*; where the now reigning Pope* assigned him also the Cure of the said Church, it having been renounced by the Person for whom it was destin'd after the Death of Cardinal *Cerri*. So that Cardinal *Imperiale* having been confirmed in the Legateship for other three Years, he had the Government both in Spirituals and Temporals, till Cardinal *Tarugi* went to be Bishop of the Place.

In this Post he got great Applause, having administred Justice impartially, and without any manner of Interest. He paved all the Streets of the City anew, cleansed all the Common Shores, and raised a great many Ways over the Fens; by which means he has made the Access to the Town much easier, the Inhabitants live in greater Neatness and Cleanliness in their Houses, and the Air of the Place is considerably more healthy than it was. For this Reason the Judge of the *Savii* order'd a publick honourable Inscription to be made in Marble, for perpetuating to
Poste-

* *Innocent* XII.

Posterity the Memory of the great Benefits the Town had receiv'd under the Government of this Cardinal. He augmented the Quantity of Corn in the War Time, when the *Germans* were descending into *Italy*, nay even into *Lombardy*, upon their Frontiers. And he supplied out of his own Pocket, on several Occasions, what the Communities wanted to keep up plenty of Provisions among them.

He procured those Taxes to be taken off that were most burthensome to the common People, and to the Poor. With his great Vigilance in the Affairs of his Government, he raised the publick Farms several thousands of Crowns. He made the College of *Perma*, called the College of the Nobles, to be open'd for Study, by putting in execution a Legacy left by the deceased *Albert Perma*, which was lying buried in Oblivion. He order'd the opening of a Church, for representing their Comedies, and dedicated it to the Saints Protectors of *Ferrara*. He distributed a great deal in Alms, and defended most zealously the Jurisdiction of the Holy Apostolical See, without having any Respect to the Confines with the Neighbouring Princes.

With the Duke of *Modena* he had several Disputes, particularly about the reserved Game, and he imprison'd one of the Duke's Factors, nor would he ever recede from what he had done, altho' he had carried the matter very far; nay, he even refused to give the Duke's Minister any farther Audience. He has also had a great many Differences with the Duke of *Mantoua*, and with other Princes of the House of *Gonzaga*; for which Reason his Adversaries have taxed him with being headstrong, ready to fall into Quarrels, and obstinate in defending them.

When

When the great Prince of *Toscany* pass'd thro' *Ferrara*, because his Royal Highness was not in the Convent of certain Monks that was appointed for their Interview, at the time that his Eminence went thither, he immediately went away, and would not wait for him one Moment. But his Conduct in this matter was disapproved of by this Court, as being highly disobliging, and unfit to be us'd towards such a great Prince.

But the greatest Dispute he had in his Legateship, was with the Republick of *Venice*. For the *Venetians* pretending that in *Ariano*, a place upon the Confines, the Land from whence the Sea had retired, belonged to them as Masters of the *Adriatick*, had caused to be built on it several Fabricks, as Houses and Cottages, and put in Cattle there to graze. But this resolute Cardinal immediately sent armed Men not only to demolish, but to burn the Houses that were built, and to bring away all the Cattle; which arbitrary Act, after a hostile manner, has never been forgiven him by the Senate of *Venice*.

Because of some old Emulation this Cardinal had with Cardinal *San Cesareo*, he publish'd the Simoniackal Contracts which *San Cesareo* made when his Holiness named him Chamberlain of the Holy See, an Office which he himself earnestly desired; and some say, that this Disappointment was in a great measure the Occasion of his present Head-ache, the Pain and Trouble of which has obliged him to change the Air, and to go to breath that of the Suburbs of *Naples*.

There likewise he fell out with that Viceroy, for having placed him on his left Hand when the Viceroy came to visit him, as is now the Custom; his Excellence chid the Cardinal's Master of Ceremonies for it in the Cardinal's Presence,

fence, drawing his Seat into the Place where he would have it, and then in a few Moments after, he went away in great Wrath, which they have since continued against one another without dissembling. The Nobility also of that Place did not shew him all the Civility he deserves; because he did not immediately give Access to the Duke of *Popoli* and his Friends, when they came to visit him; which was the Reason why his Eminence was not receiv'd by those Princesses, Relations to the Duke and the other Gentlemen, when he went to visit them. And this Duke being General of the Artillery, and Brother to Cardinal *Cantelmi* Archbishop of *Naples*, and related to the most considerable Persons of the Kingdom, this was enough to hinder them from having any Commerce with him; so that the Cardinal was reduced to a solitary Life, having no Correspondence with those in *Naples*. Besides, he split with Cardinal *del Giudice*, because this Cardinal having negotiated a Match between one of his Nieces, and a Son of the Duke of *Matalona's*, with a Dowry of a hundred thousand Crowns, *Imperiali* would needs afterwards give her to the Duke of *Andria* only with ten thousand Crowns.

At *Turin* he married the Prince of *Francavilla* his Nephew to a rich Heiress of the Marquis of *Pianezza*, and *Livorno*; and even with those Relations he has not kept that good Understanding that is necessary. He continues still in his Disunion with Cardinal *San Cesareo*, nor could they agree together in the Exaltation of a *Genoese* to be Pope, he being for Cardinal *Pallavicino*, and *San Cesareo* acting with great Zeal for Cardinal *Durazzo*.

He pretends to have a great Aversion for the new *French* Ambassador the Prince of *Monaco*, who is Brother to his Sister in Law, now Marchioness of *Doria*;

Doria; and this he does, that he may not give Jealousie to the *Spaniards*, he being their Subject, and his Nephew possessing a great many Fees in the Kingdom of *Naples*. But the most sensible People are of Opinion, that they understand one another secretly, as it is just they should. Some People believe, that this his Political Carriage with the Prince of *Monaco*, is lest he should incur any Share of that Hatred which the Ambassador may in all likelihood bring upon himself by the Exercise of his Office.

This Cardinal is all Love and Affection; he is serviceable, cordial, pleasant, merry, genteel, having a free easie way with him; courteous, kind, and of an obliging Carriage. He will bestir himself with Vigour among the Zealots, that he may have the same Glory in the next Conclave, as he had in the last, when he together with Cardinal *Cantelmi* press'd the Exaltation of the present Pope; who out of Gratitude to *Imperiale*, (as his Holiness himself said on a certain Occasion) named for the Chamberlain of his Household *Mon-signor Cenci*, now Cardinal; and who was promoted to that Dignity at the Request, and by the Procurement of Cardinal *Imperiale*.

Moreover, the Pope, for the Reason already mention'd, has made him Prefect of the Congregation for the regular Discipline, as also Protector of all the *Augustin* Order, which Office his Uncle enjoyed after the Death of Cardinal *Paluzzo Altieri*. The Pope has likewise put him in all the Congregations, except that of the Inquisition; and in each of them he makes his Vote to be greatly consider'd, because he ripens it with Study, and particular Attention.

Altho' he is a Creature of *Ottoboni*'s, yet he will not let himself be guided by him, nor in all Appearance

pearance by any other. Cardinal *Albani*, and Cardinal *Francis Barberino* may on certain Occasions have some kind of Influence over him. He unites so well together Splendor and Zeal, with a free easie Carriage, and a great Capacity, that he has more than once made the most accomplished Politicians stand amazed. It is certain, that he is a Man of a great Soul, and of a great Courage; the former rendring him capable of every Vertue, and the latter able for any undertaking.

His fair Medal however seems to me to carry an ugly Reverse; since if on one side he shews Splendor, a free easie Carriage, and a Capacity for the greatest Undertaking; on the other, he gives Ground to suspect, or rather to discover in him, a haughtiness too irregular, and an unparallel'd Envy, not suffering that others should know, or be able to do so much as he, nay, even that they should dare to compare themselves to him. For which Reason he is reputed by his Enemies to be too vain and stiff in his Presumption, and by that, to verify in himself the Sentence of *Martial*.

Qui velit ingenio cedere rarus erit.

THE
LIFE
OF

Lewis Omodei,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Madrid* the 20th of *May* 1656, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *February* 1690.

He happen'd to be born in *Madrid*, upon the Occasion of his Father's living there with all his Family, having considerable Effects in that Town, and great Sums of Money owing him by the Court. His Mother was of the House of *Pacecho*, of which the Duke of *Uceda* is Head, who, as is said, is seeking to come Ambassador from *Spain* to this Court, in Place of the deceased Count of *Altamira*, securing to himself, by that means, the next Succession to the Viceroyalty of *Naples*. This Cardinal was living altogether idle in that Metropolitan, when Cardinal *Marescotti* being Nuncio

Nuncio to the Court of *Spain*, persuaded him, at the request of the deceased Cardinal *Omodei* his Uncle, to come along with him in his return to *Rome*, and after his arrival here, made him very soon enter into Prelature, buying for him a Commissioner's Place in the Treasury.

Cardinal *Omodei* his Uncle having dyed in the Month of *April* 1685, he recommended his Nephew to the Protection of Cardinal *Peter Ottoboni*, who in the Month of *October* 1689 was exalted to the Triple Crown under the Name of *Alexander* the VIIIth. It was from the Hands of that Pope that this Cardinal received the Purple, at the earnest Solicitations of the present Cardinal *Ottoboni*, and of *Don Antonio* his Father; for otherwise, his Holiness had designed that Cardinal's Cap for *Monsignor Raggi*, whom in recompence he made Treasurer General in the Place of *Imperiali*, neither could the said Nephews prevail with the Pope to put *Omodei*'s Name in the List, till the very Evening before the Promotion.

After he was made Cardinal he withdrew himself mightily from the publick Conversations, and to such a degree, that living after the *Spanish* way, mighty retired, and invisible even to his own Domesticks, he has not a little prejudiced that great Spirit of his, which had a vast ascendant over most of the Prelates. Some think that this change in his way of living proceeds from his having been rich while he was in the Order of Prelates, whereas he is but poor with respect to the Dignity of a Cardinal, having been but soberly provided by his Creator. Two Years ago he went to *Milan*, to adjust the Interests of his House; but because the Marquis of *Castel Rodri-go* his eldest Brother refuses to give him any assistance, upon the account of the known Differences

rences between them, he will not put himself into Holy Orders, to make his Brother believe that he has a mind to marry, and by that means oblige him to settle some Annuity upon him for his necessary Maintenance.

He has a great intimacy with the Princess *Orfini*, to whose House he goes every Night to the Conversations. There he fell out with Cardinal *Ottoboni*, who upon *Omodei's* account has never gone back thither; and altho' the said prudent Princess has reconciled them together several times, yet she has never been able to keep them Friends; so that Cardinal *Omodei* remains Master of the Field.

In this last Conclave he followed his own Inclinations with the dispersed Cardinals that are of no Faction, neither would he ever make himself a Partizan for *Spain*, altho' he has had great Solicitations from that Court, and especially from his Brother, and even notwithstanding his Wants press'd him to it. In case the Duke of *Uceda* come hither, I believe he will go Hand in Hand with him, as being his Relation, and not as he is Ambassador from *Spain*; it being evident, that he will neither depend on the *Spaniards*, nor on *Ottoboni*. The Zealots would willingly have him into their Faction, but he loves to enjoy his own Liberty.

He has a great Vivacity, and for that reason, is very gallant in the Conversations, where there is no body shines more than he, by his readiness in satyrical Repartees, in witty Jest and Quibbles. He has some smattering in several Sciences, and supplies with his Wit what he is wanting in Learning. In times past he was a Lover of Pleasure, nor do People believe that he hates it at present. His too great Motion, and his disfiguring

ring his Body when he speaks to others, made his Adversaries apply to him the Saying of St. *Augustin*, *Incompositio corporis inaequalitatem indicat animæ*. But I have always found him to be very prudent, and have attributed the strange Motions of his Body to the exceeding Fervour of his great Spirit, he being wonderful at making Compliments, and highly to be praised for his readiness to do Service; altho' in Conversations he is somewhat nice and reserved; however, I shall say of him with *Iustus Lipsius*, *Mirantur omnes tuam sapientiam, nemo timet*.

THE
LIFE
OF

Francis Barberion,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Rome* the 27th of *May* 1662; and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *November* 1690.

This is the eldest of the three Brothers of the House of *Barberini*, Sons to the deceased Prince of *Palestrine*, who gave the right of Primogeniture, belonging to this Cardinal, to the second Son, by Virtue of the Power given by *Urban VIII.* to all the Heads of his Family for ever, to chuse for their Successor any of their Sons they pleas'd. It was by the Permission of God, not to say with some malicious People, for the Punishment and Extirpation of this House, that the Succession was given to the present Prince, who is highly generous, but chiefly with a View to add Splendor to his

his own Greatness. It is certain, that if the eldest of the Brothers, the present Cardinal *Francis Barberino*, had succeeded to the Principality, the House of *Barberini* would be much richer than it is at present, he being of a more moderate Temper, more saving, and not so splendid as the present Prince his Brother.

From his Youth he has lived always with great decency, but never extravagant in his Expences on any of his Divertisements. However, he has always lived up to the Dignity of a Prince, and being naturally of a high Spirit, is not capable of debasing himself by any meanness in his way of living. He is grave, but courteous; of a majestic carriage, but obliging; he is tender-hearted, and cherishes Maxims that are truly worthy of a Prince. He is just, pious, benign, studious, discreet, of great Application and Success, a great Friend to those of his Party, and a fierce Enemy to his Adversaries. He is dutiful to Cardinal *Charles Barberini* his Uncle, who has likewise for him a real Esteem, and a cordial Affection. He temporizes with the Princess his Mother, who is of an Humour never to be contented; but notwithstanding this he does not fail to pay her all dutiful Respect. He has been always at Discord with the Prince, and is still in continual Jarrings and Law Suits with him. But he lives in good Correspondence with *Don Taddeus* his younger Brother, for whom he intends to buy a Principality in order to marry him, in case the Prince should have no Male Children by his second Wife; his eldest Son being dead.

When he was but a Youth he put on the Habit of a Prelate in the time of *Innocent* the XIth, buying one of the Commissioners Places in the Treasury, and afterward the Auditorship of the

same, in the time of *Alexander* the VIIIth, who within nine Months after dignified him with a Cardinal's Cap, in recompence of the Marriage of the Prince of *Palestrine* his Brother with a noble *Venetian* of the Family of *Zeno*, grand Niece to his Holiness. The present Pope bestowed on him the Legateship of *Romagna*, where he has done several very remarkable Services, having rebuilt the Palace belonging to the Legate, and founded there a Seminary, with a Maintenance for several Scholars, to which every City and Town of that vast Province has a right to send some young Man to be instructed in his Studies, from which will proceed many learned Men, which will prove an Ornament, and of great Advantage to those Parts.

He was accused to have privately granted liberty to export out of the Province a greater quantity of Corn than was fitting in the time of so great Scarcity, because of the War, and great Armies that were in *Italy*. For which reason his Holiness sent the Criminal Judge *Serbucci* to take diligent information of it, who was sent at the same time, and on the same account, to the Dutchy of *Urbino*. All the Cardinal's Relations were alarmed at the News of this procedure, but it was of no manner of Prejudice to him, there being no Evidence for the Crime of which this polite Cardinal was accused; who nevertheless has found a way to bring back with him from the said Legateship many thousands of Pistoles.

Since his return to *Rome* he attends the Functions of the sacred College, and the Congregations of which he is a Member, as particularly that appointed for the Government of the Ecclesiastical Dominions*. He studies the Causes be-
longing

* Consult.

longing to these Congregations, and with his natural Prudence makes himself be esteem'd by all those with whom he converses. He is Protector of the reformed *Cistercian* Monks of *St. Bernard*, whom he does not fail to advance on all Occasions. His genius leads him to be favourable to the Crown of *France*; but in the Conclaves he will always be united with Cardinal *Charles Barberino* his Uncle, not being willing, as yet, to make any shew of his own Abilities by himself, that he may shew the greater respect to his Uncle, and please him the more, following in this the Opinion of *Symmachus*, *Fructus laboris est melioribus placere.*

THE
L I F E
O F

Laurence Altieri,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Rome* the 9th of *June* 1671, and was made Cardinal by *Alexander VIII.* the 13th of *November* 1690.

It was upon the account of the Marriage of *Don Marco Ottoboni* Duke of *Fiano*, with *Donna Tarquinia Colonna* Daughter to the late Duke of *Anticoli*, by his first Marriage with the second Daughter of the Prince *Don Angelo Altieri*, that this young Gentleman was promoted to the Cardinalship, as being Cousin to the said Spouse.

He is naturally melancholly, of few Words, and of no great Learning, not abounding in Spirit or in Parts; but he is studious, attentive, and very nice of his own Honour, and timorous to
such

such a degree, that for fear of committing any Mistake, he defers his Answers and Resolutions beyond Measure; but *Plutarch* teaches us, that *Male respondent coacta ingenia, reluctantē naturā irritus labor.*

He was by the present Pope † honoured with the Legateship of *Urbino*, whither his Holiness afterwards sent *Serbucci* the Criminal Judge to take Information of his Government, under the same Pretext that he sent him against Cardinal *Francis Barberini*, for having suffer'd too great a quantity of Corn to be exported out of the Country. But the Cardinal being found innocent, the Judge arraign'd *Prospero Sparapani* his Master of the Horse, or rather indeed his Minion, who was likewise acquitted. However, because *Serbucci* had used the Cardinal very uncivilly, nay even affronted him, his Eminence would needs by all means leave the said Legateship, having privately demanded his leave, without acquainting his Uncle the late Cardinal *Paluzzo Altieri* with his Design, who hearing of his Nephew's return died for Grief.

At present he attends the Causes belonging to the few Congregations of which he is a Member, and by the Force of great Application endeavours to make himself able to give a reasonable account of his Vote. He is otherwise very civil, generous, devout and pious, but headstrong and inflexible in his own Humours, of which he has given frequent Proofs in his Domestic Occurrences, and particularly with re-

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spect to his Favourite *Sparapani*, whom he would never turn out of his Service, altho' he has been often press'd to it by all his Relations, and by several Cardinals that are Friends and Creatures of his Family, but he makes light of all their Remonstrances, preferring his own private Satisfaction and Advantage to the discredit of the thing, verifying in this what *Salust* tells us, *Amicitias non ex re, sed ex commodo existimamus.*

THE
L I F E
O F

John Baptist Spinola,

Otherwise call'd

San Cesareo,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Genoa* the 3d of *August* 1646, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent XII.* the 12th of *December* 1695.

He is Nephew to the deceased Cardinal *Julius Spinola*, Bishop of *Lucca*, whom he accompanied to *Vienna*, when he was declared Nuncio to that Court, and found means in a short time so to gain the Esteem of the Emperor, that he was made Gentleman of his Bed-chamber, and by Consequence Knight of the Golden Key. He is at present in great Esteem with the Emperor, and many of his Ministers; having lived always in a good Correspondence with that Court, and having by his lovely Carriage, and great dexterity in Conversation, got himself many Friends.

Upon

Upon his return to *Rome* he enter'd into Prelature, and was soon employed in several Governments, all which he executed with great Applause, altho' somewhat with Rigour. He was recalled to *Rome*, and made one of the Reporters of the Congregation appointed for the Government of the Ecclesiastical State*. *Alexander* the VIIIth was no sooner exalted to the Papacy, than he made him Secretary to the same Congregation, in which Office he acquitted himself perfectly well after his usual Custom, altho' rigidly; he having been the Author of that terrible Prohibition against using any pointed Knives, under Pain of Death, which put *Rome* into such a Terror, that there was not a Prince, and much less a private Gentleman, that would venture to keep in his House so much as a Table Knife, without having the point taken off, nor was there any Man of Fashion that would keep by him, even a Pen knife, without having it blunted in that manner.

This Cardinal, having merited much of the Publick by this his great Rigour, was made Governor of *Rome*; that he might redress the Abuses crept in under the Government of the other Cardinal *John Baptist Spinola* his Predecessor; who by his mildness of Temper, and great remissness in punishing Offenders, had reduced this City to the same condition with *Faiola*, or the famous Wood of *Baccano*, every one living as he listed, and satisfying his Capricios without any manner of Restraint; so that sometimes there was seen more human Blood shed in one Street of the City, than

* *Ponente della Consulta.*

than of Beasts in the Shambles. But this great Minister very soon reduced every one to their Duty, and terrified the most powerful of the Nobility, by several Imprisonments, which made a great noise, and particularly that of the eldest Son to the Prince of *Tassi*, whom he caused to be besieged, as it were, in his House, by Soldiers, and by a Musket shot there was one killed in the very Office for the Letters of *Spain*, *Naples*, and *Milan*, of which Posts this Prince is General. He sent likewise to Prison the Prince of *Palestrine*, the Duke of *Bonelli*, the late Abbot *Sforza*, the Marquis of *Bufalo*, and other Gentlemen of note; and order'd his Guards to go to the House of *Salviati*, and to carry to Prison *Don Anthony* the present Duke, without ever having been withheld, or frighten'd from executing Justice by any Political Interest whatsoever. He always sent his Guards over the whole Town, so that in his time there was no Franchise, privileged Quarter or Refuge, even for the slightest Offences. It was therefore with great Reason, that one of his Friends made this Encomium upon him, *That to him alone was due the Glory of having restor'd Liberty to the City of Rome, and the City of Rome to the Pope.*

The Severity used by this Cardinal, in his Government of the City, altho' it was just in itself, and highly applauded by all good Men, yet it was disagreeable to many Persons of Power and Quality, who were desirous to live without controul, following the Impulse of their own Capricios. Hence it is, that many Persons were disgusted at his Government, and particularly the Prince of *Lichtenstein* the Emperor's Ambassador, upon the account of the known Bastinados which his Excellence made be given by his Heydukes to
the

the Guards belonging to the Capitol, by the Advice of Baron *Chassinet* Secretary to the Embassy. This Cardinal, when he was Governor, would never desist from the Criminal Process he had enter'd against these Heydukes, till he had got them all to be condemned to the Gallows, and even the Ambassador's Master of the Horse, who was present at the Head of them.

The Pope consenting afterwards to release them, *Spinola* always opposed the doing it, in the manner that *Chassinet* pretended; which was by having it express'd in the Process, that they were acquitted *ex Justitia*; whereas the Governor would have it declar'd to be *ex Gratia*, as the Law required. And accordingly they were acquitted in this manner, as appears from the Registers of the Government of the City, notwithstanding *Chassinet* gave out the contrary at the Court of *Vienna*, pretending that they were acquitted *ex Justitia*. For which reason, it was necessary to undeceive the Emperor and his Ministers, by sending them authentick Proofs that they might not any longer remain in that Error.

From that time forth, the Emperor's Ambassador pretended the precedency of the Governor of *Rome*, but could never obtain it, nor yet the Count of *Martinitz*, his Successor. And this occasion'd several jarrings and misunderstandings between the Governor and the Ambassadors, *Spinola* sending always his Guards into the Places under the Jurisdiction of the Ambassador, and having, during the Residence of both these Ambassadors, taken up several Persons under their Palace, and sent them to Prison, and order'd some of them to be whipt by the Hangman. Count *Martinitz* has endeavour'd to do him some diskind-

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ness at the Imperial Court, but all in vain, the Emperor continuing to have for him the same Affection and Esteem as formerly. And what is yet wonderful, he is respected, and even pretty well beloved, by those very Persons whom he has formerly chastized; they being fully satisfied of his uncorrupted Justice, and of his Severity to all Persons indifferently, without the least partiality to any one, he having observ'd inviolably the Precept of *Dionisius*, *Nulli Amicorum aut Officialium morum sit nimia indulgendi potentia, quidquid enim si recte vel male egerint, id verè tibi scribetur.*

It was deservedly therefore, that the present Pope dignified him with the Cardinalship in his first Promotion, he calling himself *San Cesareo* from the Name of his Deaconry, that he might be distinguish'd from the other Cardinal *John Baptist Spinola*. He was moreover, by the great bounty of his Creator, declared very soon Legate of *Bolonia*, where he govern'd with his usual Rigour, as well as with his accustom'd Equity. This being highly displeasing to the Nobility of that Place, who love to live without controul, he very soon became odious there to many Gentlemen of the first rank; because according to the Opinion of *Tacitus*, *Nocuit antiquo rigor.*

The Air of *Bolonia* having proved highly prejudicial to his Health, because of his goutish Distemper, he was desirous to return to *Rome*, that Climate being somewhat more temperate. But besides this lawful Pretext for returning to *Rome*, he had in it likewise a politick view, that he might endeavour to make himself Head of the *Pignatellian* Faction. And, for that reason, he

he contracted greater Friendship and Intimacy than ever with Cardinal *Sacripante*, whom he intrusted with his secret Intentions, and who return'd his Confidence with equal Zeal and Sincerity. For *Sacripante* took the Advantage of his Intimacy with the Pope, to persuade his Holiness to declare Cardinal *Spinola* Chamberlain of the Holy See; in which he succeeded, by representing *Spinola* to be the only Person capable of restoring the said Charge to its due Perfection, by redressing all the Abuses and Corruptions introduced by Cardinal *Altieri*, and others of the Pope's Nephews, that had been in that Office; he quite extirpating all manner of Extortion and other Abuses.

In this manner *San Cesareo* got rid of the Legateship of *Bolonia* with great Reputation; where it would have been impossible for him to have continued very long, because of the little Health he enjoyed there. And *Sacripante*, his intimate and cordial Friend, hoped by the Addition of this considerable and honourable Charge, to qualify him the more for becoming Head of their Faction. This is the Mark at which all the Projects of this Cardinal's cunning and address aim; and for this reason he studies how to get *Tanara* over to his Interest, that he may not oppose him; because Cardinal *Tanara*, as being elder in Promotion, pretends to the same thing; and the rather, because *Morigia*, who is the only Cardinal before him, does not aspire to that Authority. He has already gained *Morigia*, *Cenci*, *del Verme*, and *Ferrari*; and altho' in *Bolonia* he had some jarings with *Boncompagni*, Archbishop of that Place, yet he made him very much his Friend, notwithstanding that Cardinal is not capable of
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letting himself be so easily govern'd. He would willingly likewise gain *Paulucci*, which he hopes to do by the mediation of *Monfignor Fabroni*; but he cannot expect the same good Luck with *Norris* and *Cornaro*, both which Cardinals will be always determin'd by what is prescribed them by the Republick of *Venice*.

The greatest opposition that *San Cesareo* will meet with in this, and his other vast Designs, will be the certain Knowledge which People have, that he will use all possible means to procure the Exaltation of Cardinal *Pallavicini*, which his Fellow Creatures will not readily agree to, he being none of their Faction. For they will expect, according to all reason, that Endeavours shall be used in the first Place to set the Triple Crown on the Head of some one of their own Party, before they attempt any thing in favour of a Stranger. *Sacripante* has already introduced him into the Friendship of the Queen of *Poland*, that with her assistance he may facilitate the rise of *Pallavicini*, for whom she has so great a Kindness, by the acquisition of Cardinal *Ottoboni*, and *Don Livio Odescalchi*, with their Adherents. Upon this account *San Cesareo* is united with the Zealors, *Pallavicini* being one of their Number, for whose Advancement he is so very earnest, that he refused to joyn with *Imperiali*, and the *Genoeses* in favour of *Durazzo*. He will always have the *Venetians* for his Enemies, because of the ancient Antipathy between the two Republicks, and of the late Engagement of the *Venetians* with the Crown of *France*, for the Exclusion of all *Genoeses*. He is reconcil'd, by the Mediation of *Sacripante*, to the present Governor of *Rome Monfignor Pallavicino*, that he may

may help what he can to raise the Candidate of his own Family.

His Genius leads him to wish well to the House of *Austria*, but so as not to give the least Jealousie to the Crown of *France*. He is magnanimous in his Thoughts, bold in his Undertakings, and circumspect in his Actions; he is slow in resolving, and quick in the Execution. He is reserved, but civil; he has a great Esteem for those that deserve it, and is indefatigable in his Application to Business, although not very strong to go through with it, because of his indisposition of Body. He is hot, passionate, and revengeful; and is an implacable Enemy of his Adversaries, who accuse him without ground, of being proud, cruel, and covetous; whereas every one sees the great Post he enjoys, and knows that he has always lived splendidly, altho' with an honourable Oeconomy.

He has no great Foundation of Learning, he having applied himself late to the Prelature, nevertheless he knows so much, that he may appear in Company with the most learned; besides, that he supplies with his Parts where he is deficient in reading, which makes him appear in Conversation to be more learned than really he is. But in Politicks he has not his equal, neither is there any one comes near him, in the Knowledge of the Interests of all the foreign Courts.

In fine, because of his great Capacity, and his other great Merits, he is reputed by the wisest Men, to be a true Model of an excellent Pope; which may one Day or other prove to be his Lot; he having always been of an unspotted Conscience, altho' no ways scrupulous, but making himself easie to every body. Altho' he

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is exhausted in his Strength, because of his continual Gout, yet he retains always his Judgment entire; which renders him capable, whenever it shall be his Fortune to be called to it, of the greatest Post and Employment whatever, it being, according to *Tacitus*, *The Head, and not the Feet, that governs*. And we may perhaps apply to this Cardinal, what the same Politician said of *Tiberius*, *Vires deferebant Tiberium, non autem dissimulatio*; or we may with greater Propriety adapt to him the Elegy of *Cicero*, *Regium ita vivere, ut non modo homini nemini, sed ne affectui quidem ulli servias*.

T H E
L I F E

O F

Henry de la Grange d'Arquin,

Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *France* the 13th of *April* 1609, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the 12th of *December* 1695.

In his younger Years he enter'd himself a Knight of *Malta*, in the Gallies of which Order he made three Caravans, and afterward's serv'd three Campaigns voluntarily. When he return'd from his Convent, he was made Captain in *France* of a Company of a hundred Horse, of those who are commonly said to belong to the Ordnance. He afterwards quitted the *Jerusalem* Habit, and married a Lady of the House of *Châtres*, Niece to the Marshal of that Family, and Cousin to the Princess *Mary Lewis* of *Nevers*, of the House of *Gonzaga*, who was afterwards Wife successively

to the two Brothers *Uladislaus* and *John Casimir*, Kings of *Poland*. Of this Marriage *Arquin* had seven Children, the eldest of which was a Daughter married to the Marquis of *Bethunes*, the second is the Marquis of *Arquin*, who now governs the Family; his third Child is the Queen Dowager of *Poland*; the fourth was a Knight of *Malta*; the fifth is Wife to the great Chancellor of *Poland*; and the two other Children were Daughters, who made themselves Nuns.

He continuing to follow the War was first made Brigadier, and in a little time after Major General of the King of *France's* Army, and last of all Collonel of the hundred *Swisses* appointed for the Guard of the Duke of *Orleans*, only Brother to the King of *France*, having serv'd him eight and twenty Years. When *Sobieski* his Son-in-law, Marshal of the Kingdom of *Poland*, was advanced to the Throne of that Kingdom, he went to *Warsaw* in the Year 1678, to see his Daughter after she was crowned Queen, and to share of the Fruit of her Grandeur. In the Year 1694 he was made by his most Christian Majesty Knight of the Holy Ghost. He having afterwards a Desire to be made a Cardinal, obtain'd the King of *Poland's* Nomination, and Permission from all the other Crowns, that he might be advanced to the Purple before the usual Promotion for the Crowns, it being uncertain whether he could live till that time because of his Decrepitness.

Being then made Cardinal by the present Pope†

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in his first Promotion, he came to this City to receive the Hat, in Company with the Queen his Daughter, on the 24th of *March* in the Year 1699. Hitherto there has never been such another Cardinal in the Sacred College, he living capriciously according to the Dictates of his own Fancy, and altogether refusing to subject himself to the Ceremonial of the Court, and much less to the stricter Observances of the Cardinals. He lives in that blindness of Opinion, that because he is the oldest of all the Cardinals, he thinks he ought to instruct the others, because, says he, they might all be his Sons, and therefore that it does not become them to treat him as a School Boy. He struts about so with his red Habit, that even on the Fasting Days he will not put on the Purple, and wears also his red Habit short, which Cardinals are not allow'd to do, except when they go upon a Journey.

But which is yet worse, with his Cardinal's Hat and red Habit, he goes frequently on Foot in the Day time, and in publick Places. He loves to live at Liberty, and without constraint, looking upon the Saying of *Seneca* to be infallible, *Sibi servire gravissima servitus est*. From such Proceedings, that meet with no great Applause, we may gather his natural Temper to be whimsical, obstinate, and inflexible in his own Opinions, verifying in himself the Observation of *Tacitus*, *Vitia quæ amamus semper defendimus*.

In the management of the Affairs of his House, he lets himself be entirely governed by his Servants. He is so generous, that he has always his Revenue engaged a long time before it falls due, and he needs that Oeconomy which the Queen his Daughter has to Excess, to be able to supply

supply all the Charges of his Maintenance, without having recourse to the Assistance of others.

His great study is to keep a good Table, and to provide Diversion for the Ladies belonging to the Queen's Retinue. In his Temper he is totally effeminate, pleasant, merry, a Lover of Musick, both Vocal and Instrumental, of Balls, and of Feasts; his Expences on which have been so very extravagant, that they have procured him the Character of being rather prodigal than generous. He is too ardent in his Operations, extremely impatient in his own Affairs, and sometimes furious in his frequent Anger. He has a very robust Complexion considering his great old Age, and he is not subject to any Indisposition but the Gout, and a Wound in one of his Legs, to which the Air of *Rome* being very hurtful, it obliges him often to keep his Bed, and for that reason he thinks, before this holy Year is at an end, to make a step into *France* in order to be cured, and then to return to *Rome*.

As to his Virtues, both Physical and Moral, we can say nothing of them, they being but very little known. All that we know; is only that he is singular in the matter of Sciences, for he understands neither the Vulgar nor the Latin. He is very changeable, and hence it is that he often rejects in the Evening what he had embraced in the Morning. With the Queen he is sometimes well, and sometimes ill; he loves her as a Daughter, but he being her Father will do nothing according to her Direction; and if the Queen's great Prudence did not remedy his constant Extravagancies, he would make himself continually be laughed at.

This Cardinal will joyn with the *French* if ever he happen to be in a Conclave, but his Union with them will proceed out of Fear, lest his Family in *France* should be ruin'd, if he did not obey the Head of the *French* Faction; for otherwise his Humour is such, that he would be gain'd always by those that flatter'd him most. But we may apply to him that which a great Historian said of such another Prince, *Omnia huic aderant præter animi gravitatem*; or that which *Salust* remark'd, *Multum loquentia, sapientia parum*.

THE
L I F E
O F
Vincent Grimani,
Cardinal Deacon.

HE was born in *Venice* the 26th of *May* 1652, and was made Cardinal by *Innocent* the XIIth the 22d of *July* 1697.

This polite Gentleman enter'd himself very soon among the Clergy, that he might enjoy the Church Benefices belonging to his Family, which the deceased Cardinal *Grimani* had left for a second Son. And his great Soul seeing no possibility, even from his Youth, of advancing his Fortune in his own Country, because of the unfavourable Laws made by the Senate of *Venice* against the Clergy; he for that reason went to *Mantoua*, where he had a Sister married to the Marquis *Gonzaga*, he himself being likewise

born of a *Mantouan* Lady, of the same noble Family. There he consider'd how to better his Condition, but having his Head full of vast Ideas, and his Pockets empty of Mony, he thought first on ways to provide himself with ready Mony, that he might be the better able to execute the great Projects he had laid down.

For this end, he cast his Eye on the rich Abbey of *Lucedio* in *Montferrat*, in the Possession of *Don Vincent Gonzaga* a *Neapolitan*, at that time Duke of *St. Paul* in the Province of *Capitanata* in the Kingdom of *Naples*, which Abbey is worth five and twenty thousand Crowns a Year, and in the Patronage of the Duke of *Mantoua*. He negotiated with the said Duke to have the Abbey renounced in his Favour, he giving for Wife to the said *Don Vincent Gonzaga*, the Duke's own Sister-in-law, second Daughter to the Duke of *Guastalla*: And neither of the Dukes having any Male Children, it was stipulated that the Duke of *Mantoua* should acknowledge for his presumptive Heir the said *Don Vincent*, allowing him two thousand Crowns a Month for his Maintenance; but upon Condition, that he should not meddle with the Government either of the one or the other State during the Life of the Duke of *Mantoua*, who laid five thousand Crowns of Pension on the said Abbey of *Lucedio*, assigning the greatest part of it to one of his natural Sons. After that the Contract was concluded upon the foremention'd Conditions, *Grimani* took Possession of the said rich Abbey of twenty thousand Crowns a Year, which remain'd free to him as a Recompence for his Negotiation, with which political Usury he was afterwards better able to satisfy his vast Designs, having in this manner laid the first Foundations

tions of his greater Fortune. Having travell'd over all *Italy*, and being return'd to *Venice*, he there contracted a great Intimacy with the Duke of *Savoy*, by the means of some Familiarity they had together in the Gaming-Houses of that great City.

In that time the Duke of *Mantoua* being disgusted at the House of *Austria* by the instigation of the *French*, resolv'd to fortifie *Guaftalla*. *Don Vincent Gonzaga* being angry with the Duke of *Mantoua* his Brother-in-law, because he did not allow him wherewithal to live with any Decorum, giving him no kind of Authority, and not paying him the twenty four thousand Crowns a Year, as he promised, he privately acquainted the Emperor and the King of *Spain* with such an Innovation, that would be prejudicial, not only to the Quiet of *Italy*, but of all *Europe*; it being with the Mony of the King of *France* that the said Fortifications were carrying on, and in all appearance, with design to put a *French* Garrison into the Place as soon as it was fortified. After the dispatch and return of many Couriers from *Vienna* and *Madrid*, Orders were sent to the Count of *Fuenzelada* Governor of *Milan*, to demolish the new Fortifications of *Guaftalla*. This slow and expensive Gentleman, after an exceeding long delay to put in order a famous Train of Artillery, marched with an Army, which he had assembled with a great deal of Noise, and no less Derision, as if he had been to attempt the Conquest of *Jerusalem*; whereas a few Troops had been sufficient to convoy those Pioneers that were to throw down only a few Palms of a Wall of the new Fortifications.

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The Duke of *Mantoua* being outwitted in this matter, engaged *France* by his Complaints, to take new measures for the defence of the Place, which being discover'd by *Grimani* to the Emperor's Court, and to the Duke of *Savoy*, as likewise by *Don Vincent Gonzaga* to the Court of *Spain*, by means of the Governor of *Milan*, *Don Vincent* obtain'd the Investiture of *Guaftalla* after the Death of the Duke his Father-in-law, notwithstanding that the Right belonged to the Duke of *Mantoua*, as Husband to the eldest Daughter of the deceased Duke of *Guaftalla*. This Negotiation procured *Grimani* great Credit over all *Germany*, and the more because in *Vienna* it was confirmed by Word of Mouth by Father *Edera* a Jesuite, and his great Friend, as likewise by the Abbot *Legotini* a *Venetian*, and a Dependent of *Grimani*'s, whom he sent at his own Charges to spread his Fame in the Empire, in *Flanders*, *Holland* and *England*.

Grimani going afterwards to *Vienna* in Person, he was by the said Father *Edera* presented to the Emperor, into whose Favour he insinuated himself greatly by negotiating matters with so great Efficacy and Partiality for the Imperial Crown. For laying hold of the Conjuncture of the known Persecutions rais'd by *Louvois* at the Court of *France*, against the Duke of *Savoy*, he had the good luck to bring over that Duke into the League with *Germany*, *Spain*, *England*, and *Holland* against *France*. He procured the Elector of *Bavaria*, and the Duke of *Savoy*, with the Assistance of General *Schomberg*, to show on several Occasions their Bravery, to the Damage of the Crown of *France*, against which *Grimani* never ceased to plot and contrive with his Pen, writing perpetually

perpetually in Favour of the Confederates; and at the same time magnifying his Services done to the Imperial Court, and likewise rendring himself more than ever necessary to the Duke of *Savoy*.

The Republick of *Venice* would not under any such Pretext gratifie his Imperial Majesty; and *Grimani*, that it might not appear that he had betrayed the *Austrian* League, endeavour'd to make the Duke of *Savoy* more and more his Friend; for whose behoof he prevail'd with the Pope to grant him the Power of nominating to the Bishopricks and Abbeys in *Piedmont*, to which he pretends a Right of Presentation, in the same manner as *Martin* the Vth had granted it to his Predecessors for those in *Savoy*. On the other Hand, that Duke out of Gratitude procured the Marriage of the youngest Niece of *Monsignor Trotti*, with the Marquis *Gonzaga* Nephew to his Eminence, by the Mediation of Count *Massini*, Favourite to the Dutchess Dowager of *Savoy*, who had for his Wife the eldest of the four Sisters, and Heiresses, the Countesses of *Trotti*.

Altho' this Cardinal is accused of Infidelity, yet he has always been most faithful to the Pope, having justified at the Court of *Vienna*, the Pope's Proceedings in Opposition to the Remonstrances made by Count *Martinitz*. And for this reason, his Holiness has rewarded him with a fat Abbey in the State of *Milan*, which has done him great disservice with the Imperial Court, they knowing very well that it is not usual for the Popes to provide the Cardinals that are named by the Crowns; so that they conclude from hence, that *Grimani* has sacrificed to the Court
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of *Rome* his Fidelity to the Emperor. And this Example of his will serve as a Precedent for other Cardinals, promoted at the recommendation of the Crowns, to claim a Right of being provided by their own Creator.

During the short time he staid at *Rome*, he had several Solicitations for his speedy return to *Vienna*, from the Princess of *Austria*, Wife to the Count of *Ragoris*, Brother-in-law to *Teckley*, who was so deeply in love with this Cardinal, that she peremptorily wrote to him, that she would come to *Rome*, and stay there in the House with him, if he did not speedily return to her in *Germany*. Upon this intimation, the cunning Cardinal pretending to the World that he was going to see his Nephew that was newly married in *Mantoua*, and likewise to visit his Abbey in *Milan* that was given him by the Pope, gave his Holiness to know underhand, that his Presence was absolutely necessary in the Emperor's Court, to countermine the Stratagems that were contriving there against his Quiet, at the Instigation of *Martinitz*, - in revenge of the bad Correspondence that all *Rome* had with him.

In this manner did *Grimani* colour to the Pope his cunning departure from *Rome*, whereas in reality it was only to hinder his Mistress from coming hither, and to obviate his own discredit; for she longing impatiently after her Lover, and being of a bold, daring Temper, would not have failed to publish most scandalously to all the Court her own secret Intrigues, and by that means have render'd herself more infamous; she having already been accused in *Vienna* of Sorcery, together with other Ladies of note, who are likewise prosecuted for the same Crime. It is likewise
certain

certain that Cardinal *Grimani* resolv'd on his Departure from hence, for other two Motives of great Importance. The first of which is, because he knew that in the Court of *Rome* he could not have any great Honour as the other Cardinals have, in the Conversations where Learning prevails, in which he is wanting; and where that turning and winding, and caballing, in which he so much excels, is superfluous. The second Motive was, because his Money fail'd him he could not any longer continue his splendid and pompous way of living; for carrying on of which Magnificence he contracted Debt by the means of Father *Barberi* of *Vicenza*, at that time General Procurator of the *Cassinian* Monks, his intimate Friend, who with many thousands of Crowns belonging to his Order, or to his Friends, had sustain'd and kept him up till that Moment.

Here in *Rome* *Grimani* discredited himself, when he procured the Purple Prelateship, with an Office in the Chancery, for the Proctor *Lonio* his Agent; both because he was the Son of a Cocker then alive in *Rieti*, and because he was not a Person singular for any great Qualities, nor any way eminent in the Profession of Law, or Practice of the Courts. Besides, *Grimani* being only learned in Politicks, in History, and in the Knowledge of all the Interests of the several Princes of the World, but wholly ignorant of the Scholastick Learning, of the Law, of the Councils, and of Morality, which are the Sciences necessary to a Cardinal that lives at *Rome*; he render'd himself so useless and inconsiderable in the Congregations, where he assisted as a Statue without acting any thing, and without opening his Mouth, he being in his Temper flegmatick,

tick, and of few Words. At first People believed that his Silence flowed from his Modesty, and a submission of his own Sentiments to the ripper Judgment of others; but in process of time it appear'd, that it preceeded only from Ignorance, or rather from Policy, that his weakness might not be discover'd in Discourses above his Capacity.

He is melancholly, thoughtful, cunning, and apprehensive; but not very serviceable, and wholly averse to meddle in any Business except such as will turn to his own Profit; and in such he is most Officious. In his Nature he is so suspicious, that he does not so much as trust any one of his own Secretaries, except in Letters of bare Compliment; but in Letters concerning Business he writes them all with his own Hand, thinking every other Person incapable of following the Thread of his vast Ideas; so that he writes above a hundred Letters every Week. He endeavours to keep fair with all the Courts, because he well knows that none of them trust him, nor did they ever confide in him, because of the Experience they have had of his cunning in several Conjunctions; and especially the Emperor, who remembers but too well the League which he concluded with *Savoy* by this Cardinal's Mediation, and which alone he defended afterwards at his own Cost.

In *Rome* he left all the Enemies of Count *Martinitz* his Friends, and on the contrary, all his Favourers are no great well wishers to this Cardinal. In many Occasions he has shewn a particular spite at the House of *Toscany*, and altho' the true Cause of it is not known, yet I suspect it proceeds from the Emulation with other Princes

Princes of *Italy* about the Rivality of their Families. This spite comes likewise partly from the Hatred he has against his Highness the Cardinal *de Medici*, whom he pretends no longer to obey, because he did not substitute him as Protector of the Empire in his stead after the Death of Cardinal *Agbirre*, but gave this Post to Cardinal *Giudice*; whereas he thought this Honour was due to him, as being only Imperial, and not a *Spaniard*, as the two other Cardinals were.

Cardinal *Grimani* was most intimate with the deceased Count of *Altamira* the *Spanish* Ambassador at *Rome*, where he contracted his Friendship with him, and cultivated it during the Life of the said Ambassador, with Letters under their own Hands, which they exchanged with one another, and which he continues now to do in the same manner with the Marquis of *Leganez* in the Court of *Spain*. He likewise has an intimate Correspondence by Letters in *Rome* with the Cardinals *Marescotti*, *Spada*, *Panciatichi*, and *del Verme*; as also with *Monsignor Pallavicini* Governor of *Rome*, in whom he confides more than in any other. He corresponds likewise in *France* with Cardinal *Furstenbergh*, with whom he has a great sympathy; as also with Cardinal *Camus*, by means of his intimate Friend, the Bishop of *Ivrea*, formerly Bishop of *Aosta*. He is an Enemy to Cardinal *Giudici*, for the cause above mentioned; as likewise to Cardinal *Ottoboni*, being his Rival in the Favour of his own Republick.

In a Conclave it will be a hard matter for him to acquire any Glory, he being known to be of no great Sincerity, and to have no manner of Credit. Altho' he has a great Capacity for negotiating Matters of great moment with Princes,
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yet he would not have that Success in this Hemisphere, where he is taxed with excessive Haughtiness, Pride and Hastiness. But with his prudent Emulation he has always found means to conquer these, and other Imperfections of lesser note, to his great Praise, shewing himself in all other respects to be of a great Genius, and fit for great things. So that we may justly appropriate to him that excellent Sentiment of *Seneca*, *Hominem excelsi ingenii, vitam humilia delectant.*



FINIS.

